KHARTOUM (R) - Sudan's military ruler Omar Hassan Al Bashir has urged his countrymen to rise above their differences and build their nation - a vast and impoverished country of 25 million people, torn by eight years of civil war. "Forget your differences and concentrate on building the nation under the umbrells of the popular congresses system," he told 1,636 delegates attending the closing session on Friday night of a national political conference. The conference, which opened on Tuesday, was convened by Bashir's 13-man ruling body to map out Sudan's political fature. His call for unity, followed the rejection of his recent offer of reconciliation by political opponents based abroad. Official media reports in Khartoum said the conference recommended that the next president of the country should be directly elected and that popular congresses should be set up at all levels — villages, provinces, states and nationwide. The one on national level should act as the country's parliament which, ring to Mohammad Al Amin Khalifa of the raling council would formulate domestic and foreign policies.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سيلنثية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة المعطفية الاردنية والرايء

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Madani says be won't ren for Algerian elections

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — The head of the Islamic Salvation Front. Algeria's leading fundamentalist movement, said he will not be a candidate in June legislative elections, the daily Horizons quoted him

Saturday as saying. In an interview with the paper, Abassi Madam reiterated his threat to call a general strike if the recently enacted election law is not repealed. He also renewed his call for a presidential election

Chadli Benjedid was reelected in 1988 to a five-year term. The legislative elections are largely viewed as a contest between the Islamic Salvation

Front and the ruling National Liberation Front, which has held all

parliamentary scats since Algeria gained independence from France in 1962. The Islamic Salvation Front prevailed in municipal and regional elections last June, the first undisparty voting here. Madani said his group would not make an alliance with the less powerful Movement for an Islamic Society, saying his rival, Sheikh Mahfoudh Nahnah, was "Chadli Benjedid's man," Horizons wrote.

Cheney to visit Gulf

Volume 16 Number 4691

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney will travel to the Gulf on Sunday for postwar security talks with government leaders in Saudi Arabia and five other Gulf states, the Pentagon said Friday. It will be Cheney's first visit to the region since the end of the Gulf war, The Pentagon announcement said Chency would meet with government officials in Kuwait. Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates in addition to Saudi Arabia. All the Arabian peninsula states sided with the U.S-led coalition against Iraq. The announcement gave no other details, but Cheney is expected to attempt to clinch agreements on a Gulf location for a forward headquarters for the Florida-based U.S. Central Command, which was temporarily based in Riyadh

Most U.S. weapons still in Gulf

during the war.

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WASHINGTON (AP) -- Only a quarter of the tanks, artillery and other heavy equipment U.S. ground forces used to push Iraq out of Kuwait have been shipped home because the Pentagon hasn't decided what material - if any -- should be left behind, Pentagon sources say. Senior military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, say the movement of the arms depends on reaching a series of complex, sensitive agreements with various Gulf states on their security needs. High-level discussions among top Pentagon officials and leaders of the Gulf states are expected to answer the question of whether some of the material might be left behind or sold to allies in the region. No formal pacts have been reached. In the meantime, the U.S. military has been gathering its hardware at major depot storage points, such as in the vicinity of King Khalid military city in northern Saudi Arabia.

Khamenel CIA agent --- iraqi paper

NICOSIA (R) - A Baghdad newspaper said on Saturday that anti-traqi statements by Iran's supreme leader Ayatoliah Ali Khamenei showed he was a puppet of the United States controlled by the Central Intelligence Agency. The official Iraqi news agency quoted the government daily Al Iraq as describing the Iranian leadership as "America's men" and referred to Khamenei by name, saying: "Under his turban he black thoughts, wicked intentions and evil plans that serve no one but his masters in Washington, particularly the CIA." The strongly worded com-mentary came in response to Khamenei's May Day speech in which he called President Saddam Hussein a humiliated dictator who awarded himself a medal for "shedding rivers of blood" of his own people.

Iraqi charged in killing of Turks

ANKARA (R) - An Iraqi security guard faces the death penalty after being formally charged in the shooting deaths of two Turkish demonstrators during an April 5 protest outside Baghdad's Istanbul consulate. Anatolian news agency said on Saturday that the prosecutor's indictment of Ayad Faik Taha said bullets taken from the bodies of the dead men came from a Klashnikov rifle which the consulate handed over to police with Taha on April 25. The agency gave no date for the first hearing of the case. Taha did not have diplomatic immunity.

Buch wit don Cherry Syria, Lebanon to en Elizabet restore telephone H 10 me 122

DAMASCUS (R) - Syria and Lebanon plan to restore direct purchillan de telephone dialing, severed as a result of Lebanon's 16 year civil war, from next month, officials said on Saturday. "Agreement Kuwali af it was reached (at recent talks) on restoring direct telephone dialing between Syria and Lebanon at the begining of June and that a joint technical committee to be 1, former to formed to follow up the process," fargant 100 some official said.

Prime Minister meets PLO team for joint efforts on peace process

AMMAN SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991, SHAWAL 21, 1411

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials arrived in Amman on Saturday and went into talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran to coordinate a joint position towards the U.S. initiated Middle East peace process.

A senior PLO official later said that the organisation was seeking a meeting for the five fornt line states - in addition to Jordan and the PLO, Syria, Egypt and Lebanon — to coordinate a unified Arab negotiating position.

I believe that our brothers in Jordan share the same objective," PLO executive member Yasser Abed Rabo told Jordan Television following the meeting.

Palestinian officials in Amman said the delegation was also preparing the ground for a visit by Palestiman leader Yasser Arafat to Jordan amid reports that the U.S. is promoting a peace process involving talks between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian

Troubleshooter Mahmond Abbass, who is heading the visiting delegation which includes. besides Mr. Abed Rabo, executive committee member Saleiman Najab, arrived here after a brief fence-mending mission to Cairo.

The date of Mr. Arafat's arrival in Jordan was not disclosed but he was expected to confer with His Majesty King Hussem prior to the King's expected visit to Washington in a few weeks' time.

The decision to strengthen political coordination with Jordan, according to Palestinian officials, is crucial to the organisation's diplomatic move to block American attempts to marginalise its role and "bypass" the Palestinian people's right to selfdetermination.

The PLO's Central Council (PCC), which convened in Tunis on April 21, has rejected the U.S. advocated regional conference or any negotiating forum, unless it was sponsored by the United Nations.

The PCC, however, has given Mr. Arafat the green light to show flexibility towards the peace process, as long as he adheres to the main elements of the PLO's

1988 peace initiative which called for the setting up of an indepen-dent Palestinian state alongside Israel, the sources said.

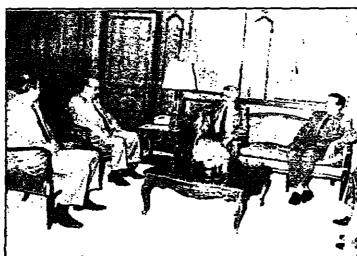
Reports from Washington last week suggested that the U.S. was abandoning its two-pronged approach involving Arab-Israeli talks parallel to Palestinian-Israeli talks in a process involving

Washington has so far refused to recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and is seeking Palestinian representatives who are non-PLO members from the

Jordanian-Palestinian team.

Israeli negotiations with a joint

(Continued on page 5)



Prime Minister Mudar Badran (second left) receives PLO Executive Committee members Mahmoud Abbass (second right) and Yesser Abed Rabbs (right). Attending the talks is Foreign Minister Taber Al Masri (Petra photo).

EC deplores new Israeli settlements

- The European Community Saturday deplored new Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territoties, regarding them as especially harmful at a time when all parties should show flexibility and realism."

The 12 EC member states said in a press release they "are gravely concerned at the recent establishment of two new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, at Revava on April 15 and 16 and at Talmon Keva on April 22."

They deplored the fact that the Israeli government had given permission for these settlements and reaffirmed their long-standing position that "Jewish settlements in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including East

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Agencies) Jerusalem, are illegal under international law and under the 4th Geneva Convention in particu-

> The EC added that "the initiative of the American secretary of state, Mr. Baker, now offers genuine prospects of progress towards peace in the region."

> They said they "fully support this initiative and the process envisaged, which should enable the necessary dialogue between the parties concerned to get

"They also consider that any establishment of new settlements in the occupied territories, which is in any case illegal, is especially harmful at a time when all parties

(Continued on page 5)

Dumas says ties with Iran improving; Velayati calls for hostage release

TEHRAN, Iran (Agencies) — France and Iran on Saturday reported progress in efforts to settle a \$1 billion financial dispute that had strained relations between the two countries for more than a decade.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said that he expected the two sides to reach an agreement on the matter before the conclusion of a visit to Iran by French Foreign Minister Roland

Dumas, who arrived Friday, has held two rounds of official talks with Velayati. On Saturday, he also met with President Hashemi Rafsanjani and delivered to him a letter from French

President Francois Mitterrand. The Islamic republic news agency did not provide contents of the letter. But it quoted Raf-

sanjani as criticising the U.S. role in the Gulf after the liberation of

IRNA quoted Rafsanjani as telling Dumas the United States was trying to "monopolize power in the region through its aggres-

Rafsanjani also told Dumas that the problems rising from the influx of more than one million Iraqi refugees were "disastrous" for Iran. He said Iran was spending \$15 million dollars a day on these refugees.

And Velayati called for the release of all hostages and said countries with any influence

should help to free them. Velayati, speaking at a joint news conference in Tehran with Dumas, said anyone detained against their will should be re-

"All hostages should be released from Lebanon or other countries," Velayati told the news conference broadcast by Visnews television news agency.

"Those innocent people who have been taken as hostages or have been detained against their will... have to be released regardless of who they or from which country they are.'

Six Americans, three Britons, two Germans and an Italian are believed held in Lebanon

"All countries that directly or indirectly have some influence among those countries or groups which can help for the release of hostages... have to use their influ-Velayati said.

Last month he urged the United States and Britain to help to free hundreds of Arabs detained in Israel and Lebanon.

Iraq seeks to resume trade through Jordan

By Jamai Halaby The Associated Press

AMMAN — Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Mahdi Saleh said Saturday his country may use Jordan as a major transit route for trade when the United Nations lifts Gulf war sanctions.

"I have discussed with Jordanian officials the possibility of preparing Jordan to become a transit centre for Iraqi commercial activities," Saleh said in an interview before leaving Jordan at the end of a three-day visit.

He also said an Australian company had agreed to sell Iraq one million tonnes of

Saleh's talks here coincided with visits by numerous Iraqi businessmen hoping to buy food and medical supplies for the war-ravaged country.

Much of Iraq's foreign trade remains paralysed by U.N. trade sanctions imposed after its invasion of Kuwait last August, as well as a shortage of foreign exchange.

Saleh did not say if Jordanian officials accepted his request, but he noted that Baghdad had asked the U.N. sanctions committee for permission to import goods and export oil.

Prior to the Gulf crisis, Jordan was a major shipping route and trading partner for Iraq. whose own ports were blocked by the 1980-88 war with Iran. Jordan's only sea outlet, the

port of Agaba, handled 70 per cent of Iraqi sea trade during the past decade. The Gulf war embargo also damaged Jordan. Officials

here complain that coalition naval forces have repeatedly turned back shipments to Agaba destined for Jordan and not Iraq.

Saleh. who arrived Thursdav. met Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Trade Minister Ziad Fariz and Jordanian businessmen. Saleh said in an interview

that his visit was aimed at organising shipments of food and medical supplies to Iraq after acquiring U.N. approval. "I have agreed with a repre-

sentative of an Australian trade firm to export one million tonnes of grain by this summer which are urgently needed for the Iraqi people."

He refused to identify the company, but said his country was also looking for other grain sources. Baghdad imported much of its grain from the United States. Canada and Australia before the Gulf cri-

Saleh said he also sought Jordan's help in releasing food shipments held by the multinational forces in European and other ports in compliance with the U.N. embargo.

No Kurdish zone — Bush guarantees for a pact, and there

THE UNITED States is not setting up a permanent security zone in Iraq for Kurdish refugees, President George Bush said on Saturday.

U.S. and allied forces have expanded their safe haven for refugees in northern Iraq, and barred Iraqi troops from a border zone 130 kilometres long and 56

kilometres deep.

But asked whether this expansion represented a permanent safety zone for the Kurds, Bush said, "I wouldn't phrase it that

"I've always said that we're not interested in a dismembered Iraq," Bush told reporters on board his official aeroplane flying to Michigan for a university

"Certainly we want these people's lives protected against this violence that's been wrought upon them for many many years," he said. "It's been going for years and it's terrible."

> Kurdish-Iraqi talks resume on Monday

Kurdish officials said Saturday that talks on details of a promised autonomous Kurdish homeland in northern Iraq will start Monday in Baghdad.

The Kurds are at odds with Iragi President Saddam Hussein over the need for international

were reports of differences over how to split revenues.

Baker Fattah, spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. said negotiators are aiming at political, cultural and economic autonomy that would preserve "good foreign relations" with neighbouring countries that have large Kurdish populations.

We don't need an independent state," Fattah said. "It's a dream, but it's not reality."

Kurdish officials announced on April 24 that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had agreed in principle to grant expanded autonomy to the 3.5 million Iraqi Kurds and to carry out democratic reforms throughout the coun-

More Iraqi troops discharged

In Baghdad President Saddam Hussein has ordered the discharge from the anned forces of conscripts and reservists aged between 39 and 44, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported on Satur-

The order was the latest in a series of similar measures taken by the Iraqi leadership after the end on Feb 28 of the six-week Gulf war. Iraqis born between 1953 and

1960 have already been ordered discharged from the armed forces and the one-million strong popular army militia was disbanded

At the same time Iraq said it was ending rationing of kerosene, introduced after U.S. and allied air raids on oil refineries during

the Gulf war. INA said the oil ministry had decided to end rationing from Sunday because restored refining capacity was sufficient to meet

Iraq two months ago rationed kerosene supplies to 30 litres per family every 20 days when con-

sumption shot up.

Many families used kerosene as fuel for cookers and heaters as a substitute for electrical appliances after allied air raids crippled power stations.

Iraq last week ended petroi rationing in another popular move to mark President Saddam Hussein's 54th birthday

Iraqi Catholics appeal to Pope

The Catholic patriarch of Iraq asked Pope John Paul on Saturday to campaign for an end to U.N. sanctions imposed on Bagh-

"It was a historic audience," Raphael I Bidawid told reporters after the Pope received him in the Vatican with other Catholic and Orthodox Iraqi bishops.

Bidawid, patriarch of the Eastern Chaldean rite, said the

(Continued on page 5)

The Naameh bases, believed to

hold about 400 fighters, were

frequently raided by Israeli jets

The PFLP-GC is one of the

Palestinian factions most closely

tied to Syria. It is at adds with

over the past five years.

withdraws from Beirut PFLP-GC and Israel dominate the rest. the PFLP-GC also has bases.

Syria, with 40,000 troops in

Lebanon, is the principal foreign

sponsor of the pain brokered by

the Arab League in October

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) - A Syrian-backed Palestinian faction said Saturday it will disarm its fighters in Lebanon under an Arab League plan to end that country's civil war.

An official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command said the organisation on Friday ordered its fighters to disarm in line with the government effort. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Lebanese army on Monday pushed into Christian and Druse regions as a major step in regaining control from militia factions that have fought a 16-year

The government now controls 1,000 square miles about onequarter of Lebanon's territory. Syrian troops, Palestinian fighters

1989. Eventually, all militias are supposed to disband and all foreign forces leave Lebanon The main Christian and Druse militias have already turned over much of their heavy weaponry to

Residents of the Naameh district south of Beirut reported

for the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley of east Lebanon, where

Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fateh branch of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Another Syrian-backed facthe army under the plan, which tion, the Fateh-Uprising group calls for the militias to eventually led by Col. Saeed Musa, earlier

seeing PFLP-GC fighters withdrawing in convoys from their bases hours before the army moved in last Wednesday. They were apparently headed said it had withdrawn its fighters and weapons to the Bekaa from refugee camps in Beirut. Arafat so far has refused to

disarm his 6,000 fighters in south Lebanon, and PLO officials argue they are not covered by the accord because they are a liberation movement rather than a mili-

cause they are fighting for their

lives, their survival," Khan said.

"We don't know how the situa-

tion is on some of the islands."

Ten million people — almost a tenth of Bangiadesh's 115 million

Survivors have virtually no

food or drinking water and faced

Bangladesh death toll passes 125,000

DHAKA (R) — The known death toil from Bangladesh's worst evelone rose to more than 125,000 on Saturday and could go much higher, official BSS news agency said.
"The official death toll now

stands at 125,200 with the confirmation of 40,000 deaths in Cox's bazar district alone," it quoted Abdullah Al Noman. state minister for forests, fisheries, livestock and environment as The toll could go much higher

if Chittagong district confirms re-ports that 80,000 had died there, BSS said. Friday's count in Chittagong was 60,000. Officials voiced fears that the

tally would surpass 150,000. This has been the worst catastrophe Bangladesh has ever ex-

perienced," one official said. The whole nation will have to bear with it. But the question is how?" Earlier on Saturday the cyclone

confirmed 103,059 deaths and said tens of thousands of people still missing were presumed dead. Winds gusting up to 145 miles per hour (235 kph) slammed into the densely populated Bangladesh coast and a dozen islands on Monday night, whipping up

preparedness centre in Dhaka

Winds and currents continue to sweep human corpses ashore and thousands of bloated animal carcasses litter ruined farms. "Every day more and more bodies are floating up," Lutfur Rahman Khan, minister of state

for relief and rehabilitation, said

population - lost homes in the worst storm in the disaster-prone state's 20-year history. The vast majority of their houses were flattened or washed Out to sea.

threats of choicra and diarrhocal diseases, officials said. Rain and winds were hamper ing airborne relief efforts. More relief supplies and equipment

were needed, particularly helicopters and fast boats able to brave rough seas to reach devastated islands. The government said aid operations should improve after

three Indian helicopters arrive later on Saturday to join six Bangladesh airforce helicopters dropping food and supplies to islands and coastal villages. Renter photographer Rafiqui Rahman said pilots often hover

supplies, afraid to land lest panicked survivors try to scramble aboard. Khan said 10 ships sank in

over shattered areas and drop

Chittagong harbour during the

He estimated damage at \$1.4 billion and said \$60 million was needed for immediate relief op-

Officials said the full extent of

damage by the storm, worse than was caused by the 1970 cyclone that killed 100,000 people, would not be known for weeks. Saudi Arabia said on Friday it

would send about \$100 million in aid to help restore Bangladesh's public services.

Abdul Wahab, father of modern Arabic music, dies at 90 His funeral will be held after patriotic songs and starred in

CAIRO (R) - Mohammad Abdul Wahab, considered the father of modern Arab music, died of heart failure early on Saturday at the age of 90, the

moulded the traditional quarter-tone themes of classical Middle Eastern music with western forms to turn out hundreds of romantic songs whose popularity remain unrivalled throughout the Arab World.

Newspapers and broadcas-

ters said Abdul Wahab com-

plained of fatigue at around

midnight on Friday. His wife,

Nahla, called for an ambul-

ance but by the time it arrived

he had died.

composed by Abdul Wahab. The composer, born in Cairo

in 1901, began his career as a singer in a small musical group. He later went to Cairo's Institute of Oriental Music. where he studied the oud (lute), an Arabic stringed instrument, along with western

orchestration. He subsequently composed around 1,800 romantic and

why) which quickly hit the top of the charts across the Middle

The song came under fire from many Muslim fundamentalists, who said its fatalistic words questioning the meaning of life encouraged disbelief in God. Abdul Wahab, married with

five children, briefly entered

death, according to the newspaper Al Ahram, His physician had visited him earlier in the

day and said he was normal. Al Ahram said he had been working on a new song about the haj, the muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, in the weeks before his death and hoped to release

(Continued on page 3)



hospital a week before his several musical films. death after he lost balance in the Muslim noon prayer on He gave up singing for 30 his home, fell on the ground Sunday at the Omar Makram Mosque in the centre of Cairo. years to concentrate on comand suffered bruises on his Hundreds of thousands of posing, and wrote the music shoulder, back and thighs. He practiced his normal Egyptians jammed the square for songs recorded by many of Egyptian media reported.
The singer-composer routine until the end, although the Arab world's best-known around the mosque for the 1975 funeral of another giant he seldom left his house. of Arab music, Umm Kalth-Last year he ended his 30-He are dinner as usual at lateyear singing break to record on Friday and was listening to ourn. Many of her songs were the song Min ghair lai (without the radio shortly before his

By Rasit Gurdilek The Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey - Simmering tensions between Turkish officials and the allied forces trying to repatriate Kurdish refugees have exploded in a series of incidents that could threaten the relief effort.

In the latest sign of trouble, Turkey closed its border with Iraq for about three hours Friday, holding up the overland transport of relief supplies. Turkey said it was enforcing border controls on the trucks' cargoes.

The move came after a Turkish newspaper claimed that U.S. forces were shipping guns to Iraqi Kurdish rebels in aid packages to

U.S. and Turkish authorities quickly denied the report, but it caused controversy in Turkey, which has faced a 6-year-old in surgency by members of Kurdish minority seeking greater auton-

The border incident also appeared linked to an article in the London newspaper, the Independent, that accused Turkish soldiers of stealing relief supplies. Infuriated Turkish officials on

By Donna Abu Nasr

The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — These

days, hospital wards are filled

with accident victims and soc-

cer players with broken ankles.

not wounded militiamen or

civilians hit by shell splinters.

ashes once again.

Beirut is rising from the

Thousands of Lebanese who

fled the carnage now plan to

return and are enrolling their

children in schools. Workers

are scraping morbid photos of

militia "martyrs" off the city's

walls and putting up colourful

posters for concerts and carniv-

Peace really seems at hand

this time, after 16 years of civil

war that cost an estimated

150.000 fives and displaced

one-fourth of the one million

people who lived in Lebanon.

Hrawi, soldiers moved into the

cantons of Maronite Catholics

and Druse Muslims northeast

and southeast of Beirut this

week, exerting government au-

thority there for the first time

The main Maronite and

Druse militias are surrendering

their heavy weapons in the

second phase of a peace plan

arranged by the Arab League.

Militias withdrew from Beirut

On orders of President Elias

Friday deported the newspaper's Middle East correspondent, Robert Fisk, who wrote the arti-

On Thursday, Turkey ordered the withdrawal of 26 British royal marines for allegedly roughing up a local Turkish official in a refugee camp.

The perceived insults to Tur-

key have prompted opposition political leaders to demand that all foreign troops leave Turkey. Turkish troops should be in charge of distributing aid, not foreign troops," said Erdal In-onu, chairman of the Social

Democrat Populist Party. "Not only should these troops go, but so should President Turgut Ozal and the government, which make people think as if Turkey is invaded by foreign troops," said Bulent Ecevit of the Democratic Left Party.

Ozal invited the allied troops to help aid the hundreds of thousdands of Iraqi refugees converging on Turkey's border. He was the first to suggest that allied forces create "safe havens" in northern Iraq.

But relations have grown increasingly chilly between the allied relief officials and the

during the first phase, in De-

Disarming other factions,

the final and most difficult

In part, Turkey is upset by foreign media accounts criticising its aid effort and troops. That anger is sure to increase with the outbreak of cholera in one sprawling Turkish border camp. The Western relief group Doctors Without Borders on Friday reported 100 cases of cholera in the past week among Kurdish re-

At the same time, there has been friction between Turkey's powerful, proud military and thousands of foreign troops setting up bases in southeastern

fugees at the Cukurcka camp and

said three people have died of the

Local officials have taken part of the blame for the criticism about Turkey's treatment of the

"Had we been too soft (on the Iraqi Kurds), we would be seen as ready to accept them as re-fugees," said Shabettin Harput, governor of the border province of Hakkari.

A statement reflected the government's fear that it would be forced to foot the bill for the refugees. Officials are still smarting over the arrival in 1988 of about 60,000 Iraqi Kurds, about 27,000 of whom remain in refugee camps.

The state of the s

Turkey was relieved when it became clear that Western relief efforts were serious, but remained dissatisfied over the amount of aid being contributed. High-ranking officials contend that despite its scarce means, Turkey has provided seven times as much aid to the refugees as all the other countries put together. However, they have overlooked the aid air-dropped by Western air forces, or contributions countries have made to private agen-

Turkey has been especially sensitive about reports from foreign media and relief officials criticising the army for the deaths of refugees caused by "stray bullets" fired in the air to quell food

Turkish officials and media have responded with claims of a double standard.

Last weekend, the daily Hurrivet featured a half-page photo showing a U.S. supply helicopter under siege by Kurdish refugees at a camp on the Turkish border.

U.S. envoy tells Israel aid for immigrants not assured

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— U.S. Ambassador William Brown, criticising Israel's settlement and economic policies, warned on Friday that billions of dollars in aid to absorb immigrants was not assured.

His comments came just two days after Washington snubbed Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, an action seen as a first sign of long-predicted U.S. pressure on Israel to soften its position on peace talks.

Tremendous priority has been given to providing housing in the territories," Brown told business leaders in Tel Aviv.

"Indeed, as we found out recently, mobile homes that sometimes take many months to install on this side of the green line seem to be installed overnight in the West Bank." Green line is a colloquial term

for Israel's borders before the 1967 war, in which it captured the Gaza Strip and Sinai from Egypt, the West Bank from Jordan and the Golan Heights from Syria.

Brown said Israel should not depend on receiving foreign aid to absorb Soviet immigrants, whose numbers have topped 200,000 in 18 months. "As a friend, I must tell you

that to base your hopes mainly on the generosity of foreign governments, even my own, is not the whole solution," he said. "There can be no assurances that tens of billions of dollars will materialise that way."

Israel receives more U.S. aid — three billion dollars a year than any other country.

Sharon, who was denied a formal meeting with his U.S. coun-terpart on Wednesday by order of Secretary of State James Baker, has accused the United States of trying to force Israel to "trade land for Jews" by hinging loan guarantees to Israeli concessions on the peace process.

Sharon had angered Baker by announcing plans for further settlement as Baker was trying to persuade Israel and Arab states to open peace talks.

Some 100,000 Jews have settled in the occupied territories, where Palestinians have been in revolt against Israeli occupation

Carlucci urges West **Bank elections**

By Rosalind Mandine and M.C. Jaspersen

WASHINGTON — Arabs should call for elections in the West Bank and, at the same time, insist on peace negotiations with Israel, Frank Cartucci, former U.S. secretary of defence, told Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee's (ADC) convention.

Addressing the convention kick-off dinner May 2, Carlucci said, "Indeed, I think the Palestinians are passing up a bet (by) not pushing on (Israeli Prime Minister) Shamir's old, nowdiscarded proposal for elections on the West Bank. Even if they're not perfect, some kind of an electoral mandate would help to shake the Israeli hammer-lock on the West Bank." The ADC's convention, being

held here May 2-5, follows what the ADC calls "a high profile year for the Arab-American community." Panel discussion on the convention programme reflect the convention theme: "Arab-Americans: In the Struggle for Peace and Justice."

The ADC is a non-sectarian, non-partisan service organisation dedicated to the promotion of the civil and legal rights of people of Arab descent, including resistance to racism, discrimination, and stereotyping of Arab Amer-

The ADC has over 25,000 members organised in 70 chapters, making it the largest Arab-American organisation in the United States.

Carlucci said it was clear to him that the only solution to Israeli-Palestinian problem "is to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians." He added, however, that this "does not necessarily mean a Palestinian state - but is sure doesn't preclude it."

At the same time, Carlucci emphasised, it is important for Arabs "to say publicly what they have told us all the time: that they are willing to make peace with Israel, and let Israel live in secur-

"We need to destroy the argument - in this country and in the halls of Congress — that the Arabs are not willing to make peace, because you and I know that they are willing to make peace," he said. "I think we're now seeing the

problems associated with the kinds of solutions some Arab countries have advocated in the past — a peace conference, international conference, or regional conference: It's a very easy thing to frustrate," he said. "In my own judgement, the best course... is to proceed with functional negotiations (on) regional arms control — Israel has indicated receptivity to that — water right.

Carlucci warned that "the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the threat of regional wars using this weaponry" represent "a major threat" to the 1990s, "We need to construct a

deterrent," he said. On the question of human rights, Carlucci said the United States must condemn Israeli violations of Palestinians' human rights "just as vigorously as we condemn Iraqi violation of human rights."

In the convention's first panel discussion May 3, Representatives Don Edwards (Democrat of California) and Norman Mineta (Democrat of California), and the former Democratic representative from Missouri, David Bowen, emphasised that Arab Americans must become politically active if they want to counter the pro-Israeli lobby's powerful influence in Congress.

Constituent opinion "is very

important. We really listen to people," Edwards said. "We have to; it's our survival."

Mineta recalled being interned

as a 10-year-old in a camp for Japanese Americans during World War Two. That would never have happened to him, he said, if Japanese Americans had had a strong involvement in politics at the time war broke out The convention programme also includes panels on: - Domestic issues of concernto the Arab-American commun-

ity: congressional activism minority business status for Arab Americans, psychological and social issues facing Arab Americans, and organising Arab-Americans on campus. - Issues brought out by the

war in the Gulf: press coverage in the Gulf, relief and refugee efforts after the war, and the Guif crisis and the backlash against Arab Americans. Other Middle East issues of

continuing importance will also be addressed, including panels on the Israeli occupied territories and the future of the Arab

Beirut is rising from the ashes once again said Geagea, once a medical playground of Arab oil sheikhs student and now commander and high rollers, but with of the Lebanese Forces, "Arise financial backing from Saudi in welcome, salute it and be Arabia and other Gulf states, the Lebanese are ready to take happy for its arrival."

stage, is to begin July 1. That will put the army in As Safir, a leftist Beirut daily, declared in response: "this south with the Palestine Liis like an official obituary for beration Organisation and the era of the militias.'

Israel's surrogate South Leba-Hrawi's authority depends non Army, and in the east with largely on the support of Syria, Iranian Revolutionary Guards which has 40,000 soldiers in and their Shiite Muslim pro-Lebanon under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League, but the army now controls about one-fourth tege militia Hizbollah, or Party of God. These groups refuse to surrender their weapons. The of the country. Israelis and their allied militia More importantly, many of

occupy a border zone and rethe militiamen who strutted the Beirut streets and fought fuse to relinquish it because of the threat from the PLO and each other in turf wars have other guerrilla factions. resigned themselves the loss of Still, the civil war that began power - at least for the time in April 1975 appears to have

Some feel bitter, "We're the Gone is the green line, a ones who risked our lives for Lebanon," one said. "The detested no-man's land runarmy's just taking over after ning for eight kilometres bewe did the dirty and dangerous tween the Christian and Muslim sectors of Beirut. The army work for them.' Most Lebanese seem to feel

their nightmare is finally over People are visiting old friends on the other side for and Hrawi can start putting the the first time in a decade. shattered economy back Christian militia commander Samir Geagea and Walid

Beirut will need years of rebuilding to become the commercial centre of the Middle East, as it was before 1975. It may never again be the

their best shot.

"The war's over. It's really true. It's no longer just a dream," said Hiyam Shami, a Muslim secretary. "It's the first time since the war started that I've felt this way, this good."

More than 50 restaurants and boutiques have opened in recent months. Gutted stores have acquired new facades, and churches and botels have been renovated. Stone blocks and sandbags

that protected stores and apartments from shrapnel and gunfire are being moved away. Underground shelters, where thousands of families spent weeks on end when the fighting raged, are being cleaned and closed, in hopes they won't be needed again.

Police, after years as hapless bystanders to militia battles. are beginning to reassert their authority.

They also have a new mission: wiping out packs of stray dogs that lived in the green line ruins, feeding off the corpses of slain gunmen. The dogs now scavenge in residential areas, terrifying the people.



WAR STORIES — A Muslim militiaman takes a break from his part at a rocket launcher aimed at Christian troops positioned along Beirut's Green Line.

Operations are resuming at the battered international airport, but it is used only by Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, and a few Eastern European airlines. The Dutch airline KLM and others are sending teams to discuss resuming flights, many for the first time in at least 14

Electricity and water, cut off completely a year ago, now are provided 6 to 12 hours a day. At other times, the city hums with the sound of thousands of generators.

Skeptics remain. Peace agreements have come and gone before.

market offers a rich variety of imported goods, has not removed the stone blocks around his west Beirut store. "They're part of the decor,"

Patrick Smith, whose super-

be said. "And, anyway, I'm still afraid of bombings."
Some people even feel nos-

talgia for the crazy days when militias ran the city and Muslim west Beirut, in particular, was little more than a shooting gallery for unruly gunmen. "Those days of the war had a

special quality," said Rima Itani, a bank clerk. "The war brought people closer. There was a feeling of camaraderie, shared danger. I miss that."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Finnish expert joins Iraq weapons monitoring team

HELSINKI (R) - A Finnish specialist in detecting traces of monitoring Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, the foreign ministry said. Marjatta Rautio, head of the Finnish project on the verification of chemical weapons, joins a commission set up under the Security Council's Gulf war ceasefire resolution which required the destruction or removal of Iraq's chemical and biological weapons. Rautio's project, based at Helsinki University, has worked for more than 17 years on banned chemicals and ways of detecting the traces that nerve gases leave in the air, soil

A hundred Kurdish refugees treated for cholera

PARIS (R) - A hundred Kurds at the Turkish refugee camp of Cukurca have been treated for cholera in the past week, an international medical charity said on Friday. Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) Doctor Philippe Biberson said samples analysed in Paris had confirmed the presence of cholera, and doctors in the mountain camp were also treating several patients for suspected typhoid. "Inevitably we're going to see cases of typhoid. There's the whole spectrum of intestinal infections at Cukurca." he said. Biherson said MSF had set up a centre apart from the camp to cope with the cholera outbreak and doctors were destroying human waste to prevent the infection spreading. He said conditions in the camp, home to an estimated 70,000 refugees, deteriorated over the last two days as heavy rain swept mud and excrement across the slopes. "American marines have been digging latrines and trying to improve sanitation at Cukurca. But it's no use — the only solution is to move the refugees from that site." he said.

Bush focus on Mideast peace draws mixed reviews

By Carol Giacomo Reuter

WASHINGTON — To the chagrin of some analysts and the relief of others. President George Bush has made a personal commitment to settling the Arab-Israeli conflict despite an apparent lack of progress in Secretary of State James. Baker's peace diplomacy.

One group of experts argues the United States is squandering time and effort on an intractable problem while attention is diverted from more important matters, such as the upheavals threatening to break apart the Soviet Union.

The opposing camp insists Baker's three recent Middle East missions have achieved some movement, however subtle, that could at least bring Israel into direct peace talks with Jordan and Palestinians and must be pursued. After several days of official

Jumblatt, the Druse warlord,

have declared publicly that

they consider the war over.

"A new peace is dawning,"

bulldozed it.

silence, Bush on Thursday sent a clear signal about continued top-level focus on this. Talking to White House re-

porters, the president refused to concede defeat in the peace effort and committed his personal prestige to it, saying: "I am determined to be the catalyst in that troubled corner of the world for peace."

Baker's trip to the region last week - his third since the Gulf war ended at the end of February --- seemed to make little headway towards his goal of arranging a peace conference that would lead to direct talks between Israel and the

After 11 days on the road, the secretary, who hates to fail, left a question about whether

De la Salle Church Tcl. 661757

Terrasanta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel.

he would return to the Middle East and seemed impatient with his flagging mission.

A private meeting on Wednesday between Bush and Baker to discuss "appropriate next steps" seemed to sweep away doubts. The president said he had no immediate plans to send Baker on a fourth trip but noted: "that could change any minute." Senior U.S. officials say

Bush and Baker made new decisions about their peace strategy but, as with most of Baker's negotiations, details were kept secret. Bush began the new Middle

East initiative in the euphoric era after the Gulf war ended. saying he wanted to use the "window of opportunity" for peace that the allied victory offered.

He insisted on Thursday that

opportunity is still available. despite the fact that two critical players. Israel and Syria, have maintained hardline positions on fundamental issues like a United Nations role in any peace conference. Syria wants a significant U.N. role while Israel opposes it.

Some analysts see hints of new reasons for optimism. "Bush is not a fool and Baker is not a fool," one senior official told Reuters. "They must think there is something that they can continue working

with. This official said that if the time comes when Bush and Baker conclude they have hit a brick wall in the peace process. they will end their efforts. "They are not afraid to do

that." he said. Adam Garfinckle of Philadelphia's foreign policy research institute believes Baker is wasting precious time if he undertakes another high-profile trip to the region and pursues the peace conference proposal. "Ever since mid-March the

secretary and his aides have been spending an excruciating amount of time tilting at the Arab-Israeli windmill when there are other things concerning Gulf security and the Soviet Union" that need that attention and are likely to produce more results, Garfinkle said.

But Charles William Maynes, editor of foreign policy magazine, disagrees. "It would be a great humiliation for Bush to concede defeat now on this issue, Maynes said.

"We're supposed to be running the world now, the only superpower. The president en-

enormous international respect. If he stubs his toe on the first serious obstacle in his way, it doesn't look very good." Maynes said that at some

joys domestic popularity and

point the United States is going to have to replace persuasion with pressure — and ultimately money — to secure a Mideast deal as Washington did a decade ago when it promised Israel and Egypt billions of dollars in aid to get the Camp David peace accords.

Maynes contends Bush has maximum leverage now. To handle an expected influx of Soviet Jews in the next five years, he says, Israel needs upwards of \$60 billion, some of which is expected to come from the United States and some from Europeans at U.S.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO Cartoon L'ecole de Fans 18:15 News in French Stoatageme News in Hebrew News in Arabic Mother and Son All our Children 21:10 News in English
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PRAYER TIMES

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St. Mi	ary of Nazareth Charch Sweetle

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Si. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

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Anglican Church Tel. 625383. Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Tcl. 775261. Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church Tel. 685376 Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 815817, 654932. Church of the Nazarene tcl. 675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Another rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be easterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be

northerly moderate and sea	15
Min./m	21
Amman	
Aqaba	
Descrts	
Jordan Valley	

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 27. Aqaba 32. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent. Aqaba 21 per

USEFUL TELEPHONE

NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:	
Dr. Khaldoun Kloub	826919
Dr. Munzer Al Quraini	776258
Dr. Artwar Musa Al Haj	. 771020
Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa	733056
Firas pharmacy	. 661912
Ferdows pharmacy	
Al Asema pharmacy	
Nairoukh pharmacy	
Al Salam pharmacy	
Yacoub pharmacy	
Shmeisani pharmacy	
IRBID:	
Dr. Issam Al Salch	(—1
Dr. Issam Al Saich	. 275825

ZARQA: Dr. Ahid Ghazal (—) Khalifeh pharmacy 985417 **EMERGENCIES**

Food Control Centre

. 637111

Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	
Rescue	. 630341
Civil Defence Emergency	199
Rescue Police 192, 621111	, 637777
Fire Brigade	. 891228
Blood Bank	
Highway Police	
Traffic Police	896390
Public Security Department	
Hotel Complaints	
Price Complaints	
Water and Sewerage	
Complaints	897467
Amman Municipality	
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information	
- total	

Ahdalı Telephone Repairs 661101 ordan Electricity Authority ... 815615

HOSPITALS

623101

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akileh Matermity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636141
Palestine, Shmeisani 664[7]/4
Shmcisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/5

The Islamic, Abdali Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 Army, Marka Amal Hospital Amai Prospina ZARQA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital ... (09)991071 Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732 In Sina Frospital
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital ... (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital ... (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (0R)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

..... Jeddah (RJ) Doha Bahrain (RJ) New York, Amsterdam (RJ) ... Paris, Geneva (RJ) London, Brussels (RJ) 18:55 Madrid, Rome (RJ) Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) ····· Tripoli (LN)

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
Damascus, Larnaca (RI)
Dhahran (RI)
Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RI)
Bangkock, Singapore (RI)
Jeddah, Sanaa (RI) 91:00

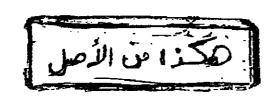
DEPARTURES

Other Flights (Terminal 2) Tripoli (LN) **MARKET PRICES** 500 / 450 450 / 400 540 / 480 380 / 320 160 / 120 260 / 200 200 / 150

1000 / 900

19:15 Lamaca (CY)

320 / 220 380 / 320 .. 250/ 200 Grapefruit Lemon Lettuce (per one) 300 / 250 120 / 70 120 / 80 210 / 170 Onion (dry)
Onion (green) ...
Orange
Pepper (bot) ...
Pepper (sweet) ... 180 / 120 170 / 120 270 / 200 220 / 160 220 / 160 Radish 150 / 100



عكذا من الأصل

AACO meeting tackles airport services

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ) has participated in an annual conference on airport services organised in Damascus by the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO).

Means of developing ground services at Arab airports by foreign and regional companies was among the main topics discussed at the meeting held in the past week, according to Akel Biltaji. RJ vice president for ground services who returned to Amman after chairing the conference that

lasted three days.

All the Arab airliners were represented at the meeting, said Mr. Biltaji, and the participants also focused attention on coordinating ground services at the airports with national civil aviation authorities and departments that deal with health, passports, customs and security matters.

Mr. Biltaji said these departments should be asked to raise their standard.

Another topic for discussion was means of ensuring facilities for passengers at the airport and ensuring easy flow of air freight and air mail operations. Mr. Bil-

The RJ delegation to the meeting grouped two senior RJ officials in addition to Mr. Biltaji who will now report to the AACO General Assembly meeeting to be convened in Tripoli, Libya, later this month.

APC plans to boost production

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Arab Potash Company (APC) has to boost its production to 2.2 million tonnes by the year 1995, up from the present 1.4 million, but the programme will be implemented in two stages, according to APC Director General Ali Ensour.

"The two stages entail the introduction of two production lines with a total annual capacify of 400,000 tonnes each," Mr. Ensour said in a statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said that the first stage

would be implemented between 1991 and 1993 while the second one can be completed by the year

Mr. Ensour estimated the cost of the first expansion stage at \$100 million which, he said, will come in the form of loans from the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank.

"The government is giving due attention to chemical industries based on the Dead Sea salts and has contracted three consultancy firms to conduct feasibility studies. These firms have completed the first phase of the study which was debated last month to pave the way for the second and final phase which would be completed by the end of this year," Mr.

He said that a plan for financing the project, which envisages the production of sodium carbonate, magnesium and other products will be implemented in the coming year.

Mr. Ensour said that APC had realised a net profit of JD 39.5 million in 1990 and would soon distribute dividends to the share-

The APC last year sold nearly 85 per cent of its total production to Asian countries with India acquiring the biggest part of nearly 500,000 tonnes annually, fol-lowed by China with 400,000

Other countries which import Jordanian potash are Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, Japan, Taiwan. Mr. Ensour said that up to 20 per cent of the APC production goes to countries west of Suez, like those in Europe, Africa and Latin

France, Italy and Brazil are the main importers among these

The APC, which was estab-lished in 1956, has its plants at a site near the southern tip of the Dead Sea which provides the raw materials for its products. The company is shared by Jordan, which owns 54 per cent of its capital, along with Knwait, Libya, Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Bank.



traffic police officers on World Traffic Day (Petra photo)

Estimates put Jordan's 1990 economic

losses from road accidents at JD 40m

Jordan marks World Traffic Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday marked World Traffic Day with a celebration held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman, distribution of awards to those with remarkable services in road safety matters, and a parade of vehicles with posters calling public attention to the

increased dangers on the roads.
"By observing World Traffic Day, Jordan stresses the value of life and underlines the need for further caution on the roads to protect man and property," said Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Saleta Masaadeh in an address at the celebration

"A vehicle is a scientific product of our modern age and has been manufactured to give us convenience and facilitate our work if it is used with care and caution, but the vehicle can become a source of danger to all the members of the public when drivers tend to speed and to drive rashly and recklessly," Mr.

He said that the government had been endeavouring to spread awareness among the public about the safety on the roads in a property.

Addressing the meeting, organised by the Public Security Department (PSD), was Dr. Zuheir Malhas, former health minister and president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA), who referred to the enormous loss in life and property resulting from road accidents each year.

The road accidents, he said, are caused by the driver, the car or the condition of the road, but statistics have shown that 95 per cent of all accidents are due to

Dr. Malhas said that estimates put Jordan's economic losses from road accidents last year at JD 40 million. "The losses cover loss of vehicles, the purchase of spare parts and loss of working days which can otherwise be productive," he explained. Director of the PSD's Licenc-

ing Department Brigadier Awni Mismar said that by observing World Traffic Day, Jordan is focusing the light on the volume of losses resulting from road accidents so that it can serve as an incentive for people to exert efforts towards reducing them.

The total number of registered road accidents in the past year, he

said, stood 17,836. The accidents were responsible for the death of 375 people and the injury of 10.464 others.

Brig. Mismar said that the number of accidents last year was by 500 less than those of 1989, but the number of dead and injured was higher.

To deal with the danger, Brig. Mismar said, all members of the society as well as traffic police should be involved in meaningful cooperation and should direct their attention to promoting safety on the roads.

Mr. Masaaden distributed token gifts to veteran traffic policemen, representatives of voluntary institutions and information services who exerted distinguished efforts to spread awareness on the necessity of safe

Mr. Masaadeh later inspected an exhibition of drawings by school students depicting road accidents and conditions on the roads in general.

Later, a parade of vehicles with posters warning of the dangers on the road passed in front of the Royal Cultural Centre and the capital.



MAYOR OPENS EXHIBITION: Amman Mayor Ali Suheimat Saturday opens the annual exhibition of works by students of engineering professions and fine arts at Al. Khawarizmi Community College in Amman. The four-day exhibition displays paintings,

Abdul Wahab

(Continued from page 1)

Ben Ali pays tribute

Abidine Ben Ali paid tribute

Saturday to the late Abdul

Wahab. Ben Ali had visited the

composer during a state visit to

In a message of condolences to

Egyptian President Hor Mubar-

ak, Ben Ali, known to be a great

admirer, said Abdul Wahab was

"one of masters of contemporary

Arab culture" and he was deeply

Hrawi condoles

Lebanese Prosident Elias

Hrawi also sent a cable of

condolences to President

Mubarak, Egypt's Middle East

News Agency MENA re-

"Mohammad Abdai Wahab,

who is missed by Lebanon as

he is missed by Egypt and all

the Arabs, will remain a lan-

tern that would be followed by

coming generations," the cable

Egypt in March 1990.

shocked by his death.

ported.

Tunisian President Zine Al

interior design, artchitectural models of houses and buildings, and photographs. Taking part in the exhibition are the college's departments of fine arts, interior design, television production and mechanical en-

Industrialists complain policy on foreign workers affects productivity

AMMAN (J.T.) - A government crackdown on foreign workers in the Kingdom, in the course of organising the Jordanian labour market, has adversely affected the Jordanian inudstry. and, in some cases, production at a number of factories has dropped by 30 per cent, according to Khaldoun Abu Hassan, president of the Amman Chamber of Industry.

"The Labour Ministry's decision to reduce the number of foreign workers in Jordan came at a time when the country was in bad need of foreign workers in order to guarantee production and exports," said Abu Hassan at a meeting attended by Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Dughmi and representatives of the fordanian industrial sector.

Discussion dwelt on the need to provide for the leather, weaving and construction industries in

"Despite the fact that Jordanian industrialists are showing a greater measure of cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, and are trying to substitute foreign labourers with Jordanian workers, the industrial sector is in need of the foreign workers to survive at least for the time

being." Abu Hassan said. According to Abu Hassan, the industrial sector in Jordan is in need of foreign workers because, there are not enough Jordanian technicians to take over from the foreigners, "Jordanian youth are still shunning work in industry as they prefer to have clerical work in the offices." Abu Hassan said. Vocational training program-mes in certain fields do not cope

with the industrial needs and certain industries require special skills lacking in Jordan, according to Abu Hassan. Abu Hassan proposed the

formation of a joint committee. made up of officials from the Ministry of Labour and the Vocational Training Corporation as well as the Ammun Chamber of Industry and the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, to deal with problems resulting from shortages of local skilled workers.

Abu Hassan said that the Amman Chamber of Industry had embarked on preparing a plan to set up a specialised institute to offer industrial training, to serve as a back-up to the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), and to provide the labour market

with its needs of skilled workers,

especially in the leather and

weaving industries. He said that the chamber had already contacted international organisations, through the Ministry of Planning, to support this

According to latest govern-ment statistics, 160,000 foreign workers are now employed in Jordan most of them illegally and at least 106,000 Jordanians are unemployed and seeking work.

Minister of Labour discussed the unemployment issue at a meeting with Prime Minister Mudar Badran last week and the prime minister stressed the need for the ministry to give priority in employment to Jordanian

Mr. Dughmi told Abu Hassan that the crackdown on the foreign workers was motivated by the need to deal drastically with the unemployment problem in Jos-

He said that was a national issue requiring cooperation from all sides, including the VfC which has now embarked on intensive programmes to provide training in various skill to the Jordanian job seekers.

Mr. Dughmi said he blamed local employers who still gave priority to the non-Jordanian workers and those who violated the Ministry of Labour's laws and regulations.

Mr. Dughmi used the Labour Day anniversary, on May 1, to encouruge Jordanian job-seekers aaccept available posts left vacant by the non-Jordanian workers so as to earn a decent living.

The VTC, he said, was expanding its programmes and enlisting help from local industries to recruit and train Jordanians to take up various jobs.

Mr. Dughmi said he supported Abu Hassan's idea of forming a joint committee to oversee the problem of shortage of Jordanian workers and the country's needs of foreign labour.

RSS issues study on rural development

AMMAN (J.T) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Economic Reits Administration in Jordan."

The study, covered in six chapters, sheds light on services, projects, and administrative development in the Jordanian country-

tryside development and the characteristics of the agricultural sector in Jordan.

the administrative and legal characteristics of the Jordanian coun-

The third and fourth chapters productive projects in the countryside, as well as the role of

Finally, the sixth chapter presents recommendations reached in the study to activate the development process in country-

The study was based on a field survey of an arbitrarily selected sample comprising fifty municipalities in various rural areas in the Kingdom. It was also based on secondary information obtained from different sources as well as previous practical and theoretical studies in this field

search Centre Dr. Ahmad Qasem Al Ahmad noted that this study complied with the broad lines of the planning policy currently adopted by the government.

search Centre has issued a study entitled "Rural Development and

The first chapter defines coun-

The second chapter deals with

include an analysis of services and public and private institutions in the development of countryside. The fifth chapter discusses the problems and impediments facing the development process in the countryside.

Director of RSS Economic Re-

Future projects will result in curtailing emigration from the countryside to the city, and enhancing the endeavour designed to encourage the establishment of productive projects in the coun-

Such projects aim at providing residents with their basic needs of commodities and services as well as supplying the city with the surplus quantities of the produce of the rural areas. It is noteworthy that Friedrich

Ebert Stiftung of Germany contributed to financing the project in order to promote scientific

Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday meets National College students involved in voluntary

Premier says voluntary work helps build up society

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Mudar Badran said Saturday that voluntary work should be encouraged at all levels, especially among students of schools and colleges, and the process of building up the society should be "infused in the hearts

of the young generation."
"Universalising the voluntary service can best come about through the schools, which are attended now by at least one third of the Jordanian population." said the prime minister during a meeting with students from the National College involved in

weeding and removing grass in Zahran district.

"A great deal of benefit would come from students who form a big part of Jordan's society if they embark for at least one day a year voluntary, useful work for their community in various regions of Jordan," the prime minister said.

Mr. Badran thanked all citizens offering voluntary service to protect the environment from population.

A number of students involved in the work in Zahran district said in a statement that their work was a manifestation of the true sense

of national belonging. They called on all schools to encourage students to follow

their example so as to keep the country clean and tidy. The prime minister was accompanied by Amman Mayor Ali Subeimat and senior officials at the Amman Municipality as well as teachers at the National Col-

The teachers said that the voluntary work initiated by their institution was a contribution towards protecting the environment

Ruseifa pond stirs controversy

By Khalil Abdul Salam Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Ruseifa Municipality is pursuing serious efforts to ensure safety in and around a large pool of water adjoining the Pensi Cola Factory near Ruseifa, known as the Pepsi Cola pond, according to Ruseifa Mayor Mousa Al Saad.

He said in a statement to Al

Ra'i and the Jordan Times that the Pepsi Cola company was encouraged to keep pumping water to the pond so that it won't be turned into a swamp infested by insects and the municipality was constantly spraying the area with a insecticides because the pond

lies within a residential district. Furthermore, the mayor said, the pond has been surrounded by an iron fence to prevent people from drowning.

A two-kilometre canal of water

runs from the company to the pond which is located near an urban development housing estate that dumps waste into the

According to Zarqa Governor Mohammad Shobaki, a special public health committee set up last year has embarked on a project of planting trees around and near the pond, benefiting from the water on the one hand and with the purpose of greening the district on the other.

"Due to these measures, the pond, which was a threat to public life in the past, is now a safe place," he noted.

Mr. Saad said that the water coming out from the Pepsi company was safe as it was used to wash bottles only. The municipality, he said, has appointed grands and watchmen to cusure that all measures for improving the environment around the pond are

being observed. Amman municipality has a different view from that of Ruseifa Municipality.

Dr. Hussein Zaki, the deputy mayor, said that the pond, which is located in a low-laying area,

.can easily be covered with soil

Jordan, Yemen to discuss cooperation

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

AMMAN (Petra) - Yemeni Deputy Minister of Planning and Development Mazhar Abdullah Al Su'eidi will arrive in Amman Sunday on a several-day visit to Jordan. Dr. Su'eidi will hold talks with officials at the ministries of energy and mineral resources and planning on ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of energy and mineral

Abu Qoura to attend Damascus talks

AMMAN (Petra) - President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, who is also chairman of the Permanent Committee of the International Red Cross, will take part in the meetings of the executive council of the Arab Red Crescent Societies due to start in Damascus, Syria, next Thursday. The council is scheduled to discuss ways to unify the actions of Arab societies in international humanitarian works and issues listed on the agenda of the Red Cross and Red Crescent conference to be held in Budapest in November.

NAF aids 472 needy families

IRBID (Petra) - The number of needy families which benefitted from aids granted by the National Aid Fund (NAF) in Bani Kanana district during the past four months reached 472. according to the director of NAF offices in the district. Mashari Irsan, Mr. Irsan said that the families received JD 9,673 in periodical aid instalments. He said four rehabilitation projects

were carried out by NAF in the district during the past four months, with a total cost of JD 6,700. The number of rehabilitation projects currently existing in the district, he said, stands at 29, with a total cost of JD 23,935.

Mayor inaugurates exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Ali Subeimat Saturday opened the first spring market exhibition at the Jordanian Car Trading Company. The exhibition, in which 70 Jordanian industrial companies are taking part, displays furniture, home appliances, cosmetics, foodstuff, detergents, clothes, children's toys, accessories, plants, ornaments and vegetables. The exhibi-tion runs through July.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

Art exhibition by Nazir Ismail at the French Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash and Yasser Duweik at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (opens at 6 p.m.)

FILM

* Ressian film catified "The Torpedo Boat" at the Soviet Cultural Centre - 5:30 p.m.

countries, he added.

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ICES

it before the haj began in June. Society to hold bazaar

AMMAN (J.T.) - Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the Friends of the Liver Patients Society will hold its annual "creative hands" bazaar on Monday, May 6. The bazaar, to be held at Amra Hotel, will have on display handicrafts and home-made products by women in Jordan.

Argentinian envoy ends tour of duty

AMMAN (Petra) - Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday received in his office the Argentine ambassador to Jordan on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty. Mr. Lawzi and the ambassador discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations in various fields, particularly in parliamentary affairs.

Agricultural committee meets

AMMAN (Petra) - The steering committee of the Ministry of Agriculture's Projects Department held a meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Al Alawneh. The committee approved creating an agricultural training and rehabilitation centre whose task will be to prepare theoretical and practical training programmes for engineers working at the ministry and for newly graduated agricultural

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Traffic dilemma revisited

SINCE Jordan's commemoration of Labour Day last year, there were over 18,000 traffic accidents causing the death of no less than 375 people and injury to about 10,000. The economic cost of this alarming situation has been conservatively put at JD 40 millions. Thus the ceremonial celebrations of Traffic Day, year in and year out, have obviously failed to put an end to the continuing carnage on the roads and highways of the country. Clearly something basic is amiss in all the efforts that have been and are being exerted to halt this terrible human tragedy and the economic cost of the death and mayhems that are caused by it across the length and width of the Kingdom. Granted it is difficult to single out the real culprits in this grave crisis, something is clearly wrong with the ways and means deployed thus far in addressing traffic accidents in Jordan. In broad terms, what Jordanians, private citizens or public officials, need to develop is a culture for safe driving. This kind of proposed culture requires the cooperation of not only drivers of cars but also those in charge of safeguarding the lives of the people whether in or outside vehicles by enforcing traffic rules and regulations. There are a multiplicity of factors that in their cumulative sense are contributing to the unacceptable level of road accidents. For some it is the road *conditions. For others it is the driving habits of citizens. Still others would place the blame on the traffic police who are not necessarily doing their duty in enforcing the law. Can we be but shocked to see the stop signs so totally ignored by our drivers, for example? Even traffic lights are not immune from abuse whenever drivers feel that the eyes of the police are elsewhere, such as dishing out parking tickets or speeding tickets in their favourite hang outs. The moral of the traffic violations story in Jordan is that in fact it is everybody's fault that we still have traffic crisis. It is the fault of the drivers, the police, the road conditions and every other parameter involved in the problem. What is required therefore is a comprehensive campaign that encompasses all these dimensions into one integrated plan. Starting with the police, they are asked to target areas of traffic violations that would decrease accidents rather than go after violations that would simply reap the state a windfall. In this vein, stop signs, traffic lights, sticking to lanes, speeding and reckless driving habits are all matters that deserve high priority attention. On the part of the drivers, they need to learn safe and courteous driving habits on the top of which is respect for traffic rules, driving defensively when necessary, and above all driving courteously by giving way to other drivers,

Our children also require special attention. It is shocking t were are no regwations on children p motorvehicles. At a time when practically the entire world has placed restrictions on where children may be seated safely (never in the front seat, and the need to use special harnesses for infant passengers), Jordan has yet to move in that direction.

In short, the license to drive must go beyond the ability to do so mechanically. Likewise the authority to regulate driving requires more than dishing out parking tickets for the least priority violations, and forgetting in the process about the real causes of the problem. An integrated policy needs to be formulated and adopted for the purpose of realising safe driving in the country. Without it the battle against traffic accidents will never be won.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE picture emerging from James Baker's tours in the Middle East is rather puzzling to the Arabs, and can lead to nowhere, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily in its editorial Saturday. President Bush announced that he was not pessimistic about Baker's mission yet he believed that there was no need to send Baker back to the region to pursue his efforts which, he said, have achieved "progress", noted the paper. The Arabs have heard Washington accusing the Israelis of obstructing the peace process through their settlements on Arab land, but the Arabs have just heard also U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney announcing that U.S.-Israeli reations are at their best, and that he planned to visit Israel soon to discuss development of Israel's missiles, the paper continued. These manoeuvers coincided with an announcement by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd that there was a clear difference between the Gulf crisis and the Middle East question. prompting us to believe that the major powers differentiate between world problems when it comes to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and the international legitimacy, the paper pointed out. This throws further ambiguity on the situation as the Arabs do not see a single step of real progress to resolve their problem. Only through concerted Arab efforts and collective action can the peace process by stimulated and the international legitimacy implemented, said the paper. The Arabs should not forget that the western powers now hold their golden opportunity for imposing their total hegemony on their nation.

We did not bet on America's so-called peace efforts which President Bush claimed were based on U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and we never believed in the shuttle diplomacy adopted by James Baker to pursue such efforts, said Sawt Al Shaab daily Saturday. The paper said it is not a matter of visits and tours of the region or a declaration in Washington about intention to work for peace as long as the efforts end up on the shelves of the Israeli government which refuses all bids to achieve peace. The true intentions of Washington can best be tested by the seriousness of the U.S. administration to exercise real pressure on the Israeli government to end its intransigence and its arrogance and refusal to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions, noted the paper. We want to see serious efforts in word and deed equal to those exercised against Iraq to force it out of Kuwait, and we want to see Israel respecting the international legitimacy, the paper continued. It said that no one is surprised to see Israel showing further instransigence, but we are dismayed to see the U.S. administration adopting double standards in its dealings with the international legitimacy, the paper said.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Self — sufficiency should be the national goal

IT is not meaningful for the patriotic movement in Jordan to raise its voice against the policies and designs of this foreign power or that, and against the positions taken by this Arab regime or that, to find at the end of the day that Jordan badly needs the goodwill of those powers and regimes, and their economic and financial assistance to secure its own survival and be able to satisfy the basic needs of the people and the economy.

In order to make the voice of anger more audible and credible, Jordan should first raise the degree of its economic self sufficiency without further delay. Jordan should not be under the mercy of this Arab regime or that foreign power. The well-being of its public should not depend wholly on the good intentions of external forces,

which we might disagree with their objectives, polices or orientation. Economic independence and self-sufficiency are therefore not only economic and financial objectives, to be left to the ministries of finance and planning to take care of, they are political and national

Self-sufficiency is by no means the isolation and closure of the borders, on the assumption that we can produce all that we need without importation. This objective is impossible for a small country like Jordan. It does not go with the modern trend of interdependence among countries on equal footing.

Self-sufficiency is a sort of balance between exports and imports in the balance of trade, a reasonable balance between revenues and expenditure in the budget, and an acceptable balance between payments and receipts in the balance of payments, without having to borrow in excess of repayments of old debts in order to make ends

This national ambitious target is not easy, and could not be reached overnight, but it is not impossible to achieve if we have the political and national will, and if we resign ourselves to accepting the hardships and sacrifices that such achievement takes. The road may be long, but what counts is to start the march in the right direction

After the economic crisis of 1988, Jordan realised that it cannot go on forever borrowing time and money. The government found itself obliged to undergo a strict IMF programme for economic adjustment, in order to reduce the deficits and narrow imbalances, and to live within our own means.

After 15 months of successful adjustment, and on Aug. 2, 1990, the Gulf crisis erupted. It blew up many things, among them the IMF programme, and the re-scheduling agreements which were reached with official creditors within the framework of the Paris Club, and with commercial creditors in the framework of the London Club. Now Jordan finds itself with no adjustment programme, nor a

development programme. The only form of macro — planning in existence is the annual budget, which is hardly a plan at all. The IMF is reportedly hesitant to help in formulating a new adjustment programme for Jordan because planning is almost impossible in an environment of absolute uncertainty regarding future prospects of Arab aid, expatriates remittances, export markets, economic sanctions against Iraq and the possible return of some expatriates and their families to the country at the wrong time.

Now is the time for Jordan to take its future in its own hands. Why should we wait until the IMF tells us what direction our economy should take, leaving the ship in the meanwhile to sail blindly with the winds, hoping to find ourselves miraculously on the safe shore.

If the Jordanian economy really needs to be adjusted and reformed in order to achieve more self-sufficiency and rid itself from deficits, why should not we take up the job ourselves and formulate our national adjustment programme that the IMF could not refuse.

Self-sufficiency, and correction of distortions and deficits are no more technical issues to be left to economists. They should be at the top of the political and national agenda. Adjustment calls for lots of difficult decisions which should be taken in full participation of the people, and the enlighted national movement, which used to criticise the IMF programme without coming up with a better alternative.

of emerging principles

By Mamdouh Aker

Palestinians need

to take advantage

Arab unity remains a dream

By Zina Hemady The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt - Arabs talk of unity once again, papering over deep rifts created by the Gulf war along with animosities that have lingered for cen-

But frab unity remains a distant dream, analysts say, and unlikely while power elites govern almost every Arab country and the gap between rich and poor Arabs remains

"After every catastrophe, the Arabs tend to come back trying to lick their wounds," said Tahseen Bashir, a political scientist. "They will try to kiss and make up, but this isn't enough. It's not serious."

Bashir knows about Arab disunity. He was a spokesman for President Anwar Sadat. whose trip to occupied Jerusalem in 1977 brought peace between Egypt and Israel. It also led to 10 years of ostracism for Egypt, the most populous Arab country, and was the main reason for Sadat's assassination in 1981.

Arab leaders customarily quarrel while trying to maintain an image of unity and fraternity, but the delicate balance collapsed and the Arab World split when Iraq seized Kuwait on Aug. 2 in a dispute over land, money and oil.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria led the Arab campaign against iraq and joined the 33-nation coalition that drove its forces from Kuwait. Jordan, tine Liberation Organisation opposed foreign intervention and called for or Arab solu-

After Iraq was defeated, Arab leaders began trying to mend fences.

The Arab League, which embraces Arab states from the Atlantic to the Gulf, met in Cairo in March.

It was a routine, low-level meeting, significant only because nobody boycotted it, not even Iraq. It was the first time all 21 members sat together since the invasion

In his opening address, Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid of Egypt said the Arabs had entered a time of building confidence in each other as a prelude to "constant, effective and real Arab

Seven nations founded the Arab league in 1945 and it now has 21 members. The charter · does not mention unity, but describes the league's purpose as "the strengthening of relations among the member states ... in order to achieve cooperation among them and to safeguard their independence and

Gamal Abdul Nasser of Egypt was the first modern Arab leader to preach unity. He succeeded in merging Egypt and Syria into the United Arab Republic in 1958, but the Syrians soon complained of domination by Nasser and the union crumbled in

three years. Bashir and other analysts say the Middle East will be crisisprone as long as Arab leaders run their countries as one-man shows and that unity, to which all give lip service, will remain virtually impossible.

"Many Arab regimes are personal regimes." Bashir said. "Many leaders tend to think of the state as their baby. The citizens don't have a say. One day they agree on uni-

leaders. "The next day, they agree on disunity with pas-Many Arabs blame their woes on colonialism. During

ty with passion," he said of the

World War I, France and Bri-tain promised to reward Arab military help against the Ottoman Turks with independence. The Arabs helped, the Ottomans fell, but the colonial powers divided the Arab heartland among themselves.

Earl Sullivan, a specialist in Arab affairs at American University in Cario, said artificial borders drawn by colonial powers caused problems, but the most divisive issues are rooted in conflicting Arab in-

Most Arab countries have no real parliamentary representation or separation of powers. Some even lack constitutions and the state is identified with the leader. "Both the political tradition

of the Middle East and the prescription of Islam require the Arab masses to pay unquestioning obedience to the ruler set above them," historian John B. Kelly wrote in the Spectator, a British magazine. Even countries like Egypt,

Jordan and Algeria, with parliaments and opposition parties, are far from fully representative.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, among the most prog-ressive Arab leaders, has un-

questioned personal authority over foreign policy. When he sent more than 38,000 soldiers to the anti-Iraq coalition, only a few objections were heard from the opposition.

Mubarak ostensibly leaves domestic policy to his government, but it unfailingly does his bidding. His National Democratic party holds 80 per cent of the seats in parliament.

Analysts argue that, because political unity will be difficult to achieve, the move towards integration should begin with economic cooperation.

Sullivan said new Arab economic groups pave the way for integration by encouraging inter-Arab trade, currently negligible. He cited the Arab Maghreb Union, formed in 1989, which includes Tunisia, Libya, Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania.

"One of the first principles is that the states have to border each other so as to minimize problems," Sullivan said.

Saadeddin Ibrahim, a sociologist, sees economics as divisive under current conditions. The disparity between rich oil states, with few people, and populous but poor nations remains a major obstacle. he

"The super-rich do not find much in the way of common economic ground with the very poor," Ibrahim said. "Therefore, they prefer not to deal with them, but to deal with other rich countries. This will create a psychological gap and socio-economic gap" between rich and poor Arabs.

He said poor Arabs are trapped between financial dependence on their rich cousins and resentment of them, thus producing a potential source of instability, violence and frus-

Ibrahim argues, however, that the Arabs should be able to integrate nations with disparate incomes just as the Europeans did. Much of the process, he said, is a matter of trade-offs between countries with surplus manpower, like Egypt, and those with extra capital, like the Gulf countries.

Walid Kazziha, a political scientist and professor of economics, said that sort of cooperation would not come soon. *Those who have money,

why do they want to share it supremacy of international law with poorer countries?" he and the U.N. Security Council asked. Kazziha also said they can be helpful tools for Palestiprefer to invest in Europe because it is safer.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM drive from Jerusalem to Nablus, on the West Bank, to work During nearly 40 days in solitor see my family, I am shocked ary confinement in an Israeli at how fast the colonies are prison, I thought about where expanding. Settlements built on Arab land for exclusive use we Palestinians are as a people and where we are heading in the post-Gulf war Middle East. While we might feel that the Israeli security fears are exaggerated, we have to understand Jewish history, especially the Holocaust's effects on the Jewish psyche. We have to

deal seriously with the Israelis' security concerns in a manner acceptable to the norms of relations between peoples and As bad as the war's outcome has been for our demands of statehood and for PLO representation, we can still take advantage of the moral principles that have emerged. The

The world has talked about the Kurds' rights to determine their own future. It is certainly time that the U.S.and Israel accept Palestinian self-deter-

Such a pronouncement — a modern-day Balfour Declaration, which created Israel --need not require immediate implementation. As proof of Palestinians' commitment to peace and a political settlement, we might be ready to have our rights carried out in stages. The declaration itself would ease our fears that some Israeli elements want to drive Palestinians across the Jordan River, if not to keep us under the Israeli occupation army's domination forever. It would be a breakthrough if the Israelis stopped calling us "residents" and instead recognised our legitimate national

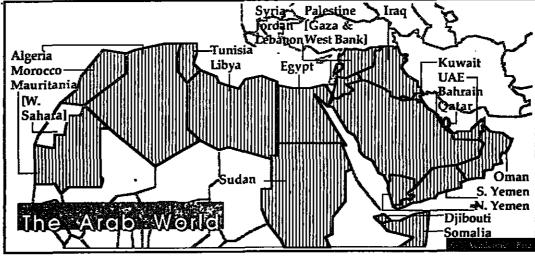
This recognition means that the Jewish settlement campaign must end. Every time I the New York Times.

by Jews are not only an obstacle to peace but also illegal, as former President Jimmy Carter described them. It is time that President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker tell the Israelis in no uncertain terms that settlement - building in the occupied territories can't continue while all parties are seeking lasting peace.

Nor should the details of who would represent the Palestinians be an obstacle to talks. This can be solved by elections. I am sure that Palestinians, in the occupied territories and in exile, would accept a U.N.-sponsored:vote! for their leaders. A fair election would emphasise our commitment to democracy as spelled out in our 1988 declaration of independence.

I am sure elections would prove the depth of support for the PLO and thus help the Israelis come to terms with the PLO. In that case, any agreement would include concessions only the PLO could sign on behalf of all Palestinians. Should the Palestinians and Israelis agree on any terms, then, I would think the Israelis would demand that the PLO be the group to sign. And only the PLO could deliver such a deal if it were meant both to oblige the Palestinian people and achieve a lasting settlement to the conflict.

Mamdouh Aker is a Palestinian surgeon. He was held by the Israelis for questioning about aiding the Palestinian resistance, but was released on bail without charge on April 7 — The article is reprinted from



Comments on prospects for unity

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Here inent Arabs on possible unity.

Walid Arab Hashens Economics Department King Abdul Aziz University Sandi Arabia

Arab unity is a dream that has fascinated and aroused millions of Arabs. On the surface this dream is quite viable, if not inevitable.

This area can easily form a strong economic bloc producing most of its needs from its abundance of labour, oil, fertile land and other resources. This mass of land is also rich with history, culture and political importance.

Coming together, the Arabs will command the respect and honour which they value so much. Arabs, despite all their differences — and they differ even on what makes an Arab — are very proud people. It is this pride in their identity that is perhaps the strongest reason for the viability of Arab unity.

Fakhri Kewar Jordanian Parliament

The Arab people want unity. but the regimes are blocking the people's will. Leaders want to protect their seats of power and their acquired privileges. I think that absolute unity

between Arab states is very difficult to achieve at this time in light of the standing situation in this part of the world. Arab unity will not happen unless democracy is rooted in all Arab states. Effectively, I'm saying we have to achieve regional democracy in the separate states before aiming for a collective Arab unity.

Hassan Al Akina Political Science Department University of United Arab Emi-

Despite the common inherited factors, Arab unity is an Arab dream that cannot come true. The most important (reason) is that the Arab governments

are self-imposed (and) non-

elected, and hence not

accountable to the Arab mas-

This is enhanced by the fact that, (in) the post-colonial era. independence, national identity, sovereignty and national boundaries - new phenomena - came to be associated with a greater part of the new Arab generations' mentality, making regionalism far stronger than

Abdul Rahman Al Shobally Saudi Ministry of Higher

nan-Arabism.

Arab unity was a dream and objective, but it was never expected soon. The Gulf crisis added to the pessimistic view that such unity will be now even more impossible.

The Gulf problem has introduced a very severe "trust crisis," at least between the Gulf states and some other Arab

The only form of Arab unity I can see is perhaps regional, such as among some Gulf Cooperation Council states ... or perhaps in the case of Palestine and Jordan, or in a form of economic regional cooperation such as the Maghreb states. Al Baki Hermassi

Sociology Department Tranks University Before the Gulf war, the whole

regional system, including the Arab League, was showing signs of exhaustion, if not collapse. Since then, the Gulf crisis and the war have dramatically divided the Arab World: its governments, its press, its

Instead of talking about Arab unity, we should be talk-ing about the Latin Americanisation of the Arab World and the return of the area to some kind of imperialistic rule.

Certain things have happened, new cleavages have appeared that have to be taken into the picture. For the time being, Arab unity is off.

Mone Makram Ebeid Arab Studies

To propagate regional unity at a time when the Middle East is riven by the most bitter antagonisms may carry the flavour of romantic idealism.

Yet it is my opinion that the current crisis has the dimension of a catachysm that turns previous beliefs and assumptions upside down.

In this perspective, the emergence of a movement that would seek to construct regional unity on a liberal democratic basis is by no means inconceivable. The first step is political reconciliation within the aim of regional cooperation and economic development.

LETTERS

New World Order

To the Editor: AT the beginning was the word.

It was not an empty one, yet it did not reveal any concrete message. But it worked like a drug. It gave hopes, dreams,

illusions, visions — e.g. about a new order for the world, Now, some months, a lot of U.S.-U.N resolutions, and a

bloody war later, the message is there. We can no longer dream about the new order for the world, we have to deal with the order of the new world. The same order that pushed the Indian Nation into the Indian Reservation (so much for the proper treatment of minorities) is now reaching out for the Arab Nation.

The word has a message, and the message is clear. It spells like this:

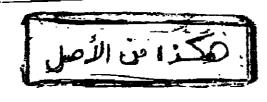
N obody W ill win

W e O rganise R adical

L ong term D estruction

O ur R acial D omination E radicates R ight

> Elinor Kaiser-Mohammad P.O. Box 540-383 Abu Nuseir



By Richard Schofield

IN ACCEPTING terms for a Gulf cease-fire laid down in U.N., Resolution 687 which was passed on 3 April. Iraq has committed itself to respect the inviolability of the boundary refer-red to in the Agreed Minutes signed between Iraq and Kuwait on 4 October 1963. The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (Unikom), whose terms of reference were published on 5 April, will be responsible for finally delineating and demarcating the Kuwait boundary referred to in those minutes.

Unikom, which will be headed by observers from the five permanent members of the Security Council, will be required to monitor and observe developments in a demilitarised zone running along the entire length of the Kuwait-Iraq land boundary (around 160 km in length) and for 40 km along the Khor Abdulla. the strategically vital waterway linking Umm Qasr and the Khor Zubair to the waters of the Gulf and separating the Kuwaiti islands of Warba and Bubiyan from the Faw peninsula in Iraq. For the entire length of the land boundary the Unikom buffer zone will extend 10 km into Iraqi territory and 5 km into Kuwaiti territory, while the Khor Abdullah will be monitored from observation posts on both its northern (Iraqi) and southern (Kuwaiti) shores and also by aerial reconnaissance.

As an observation mission, similar to that in a place on the Iran-Iraq boundary nearby to the north east, the mere presence of Unikom in the buffer zone will have to suffice to deter violations of the boundary. It possesses no authority to take any physical steps to prevent the entry of military personnel or equipment into the demititarised zone. It is anticipated that Unikom's mission will cost \$83m for the first six

For as long as Unikom remains in place, despite its essentially passive role, the boundary is likely to remain quiet. In the medium and long term, however, presuming the eventual departure of

Unikom, there can be no guarantees that the problems of agreeing a workable boundary line, so apparently unbridgeable during the 60-year period since Iraq's admission to the League of Nations as an independent state in October 1932, will not return to seriously destabilise Kuwait-Iraq relations once more.

The claims could continue

There is a clear danger in assuming that Iraq's claims to Kuwaiti territory will disappear with a resolution of the current crisis and the removal of Saddam Hussein, if and when this occurs. In short, this unlikely, principally because Iraqwi claims to Kuwaiti territory have been pursued with remarkable consistency over the last half-century, through periods of monarchy and revolutionary rule alike. Despite providing for short-term security, the ceasefire resolution and the institution of Unikom do nothing to address the basic geographical reality which has underpinned the territorial claims and demands of successive Baghdad regimes, that is Iraq's minuscule shoreline on the high sea and its long-harboured grievance at having been squeezed out of the Guif.

Essentially beginning in 1938, Iraqi claims to Kuwaiti territory have been prosecuted on two contradictory levels. Most vociferously, if only intermittently Iraq has laid claim to the whole of Kuwait. This has occurred with varying degrees of intensity and purpose. In 1938 Iraqi Foreign Minister Al Suwaidi made rather half-hearted calls for Kuwait to be administered as an integral part of Iraqi territory as significant instability prevailed within Kuwait during the period of the Majlis movement. Early in 1958, with the institution of the Hashemite union of Iraq and Jordan. Nuri Al Said requested that Britian actively support moves for the incorporation of the Al Sabah sheikhdom within the Hashemite domain. In 1961, after displaying little interest in Kuwait for nearly three years, General Qasim dramatically resurrected Iraq's hisonly last year Saddam Hussein utilised such arguments to justify

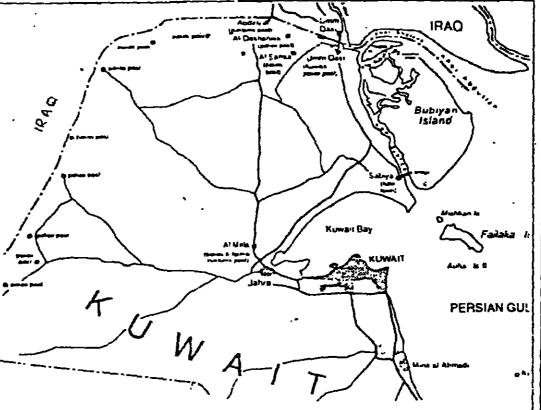
his conquest of the emirate.

This argument is essentially historical, resting on Kuwait's incorporation within the former Ortoman province of Basra at the turn of the century. It is not difficult to rebut for historical and legal reasons. Because of its generally latent characteristics, it has been almost impossible to predict when the argument would be employed. With the exchange of ambassadors following Iraq's recognition of Kuwait in the Agreed Minutes of 1963, it seemed as though no more would be seen of the historical claim. The events of 2 August 1990 quashed this assumption and suggested that it is impossible to say for certain that the claim has disappeared for good.

Much more consistently, if certainly less dramatically, Iraq has sought changes to the existing boundary, as defined by diplomatic exchanges of 1923 and 1932 and confirmed by the Agreed Minutes of 1963, which would improve its limited access to the waters of the Gulf. Typically. Iraq has demanded the cession or lease of the strategically impor-tant islands of Warba and Bubiyan, whose Kuwaiti sovereignty has seriously impaired the development to its full potential of the Khor Zubair, an important, navigable water inlet on which is situated Umm Qasr, Iraq's second dry cargo port (its first is Basra on the Shatt Al Arab waterway, the long-disputed southernmost constituent of the

Iran-Iraq boundary). Despite signing the 1963 agreement, apparently recognising the boundary with Kuwait on its own merits, Iraq has consistently demanded satisfaction on the islands issue before agreeing to its demarcation, long sought by Kuwait. With Kuwait traditionally refusing to consider the cession of Warba until the boundary has been demarcated, a solution to the border question has long proved elusive, intrenched in this familiar impasse.

A bad boundary There must remain doubts ab-



out the expediency of nominating the Agreed Minutes of 1963 as the basis for the final settlement of the Kuwait-Iraq boundary.. All Iraq agreed to in this document was to recognise the independence and complete sovereignty of the state of Kuwait and its boundaries as specified by the 1932 exchange of correspondence. There was no detailed description of these boundaries, nor was there a map to illustrate

It is often said that there is no such thing as a bad boundary, yet the definition of Kuwait-Iraq boundary in the 1932 correspondence comes mighty close. It was notoriously vague, constituting, with no alterations, the northern portion of the "Green Line" of the unratified and redundant Anglo-Ottoman Convention of 1913. It contains no more precise references to the boundary then along the Bain" and "just south of Safwan" and for years no one knew, exactly, where the boundary ran along the ground.

For nearly two decades all that marked it was a wooden post which had been placed by the British authorities at a specified distance south of the most southerly date palm at Safwan. When the post was removed at the

beginning of the second world war and the Iragis then planted additional date palms south of Safwan, the original location of the boundary proved impossible to rediscover, underlining its woefully inadequate definition. It took until the end of 1951 for British to come to a final conclusion ahout what delimitation the 1932 correspondence had meant to introduce.

This interpretation, offered to raq as a basis for demarcation in December 1951, has since come to be accepted by most observers as the international boundary between Iraq and Kuwait. Yet it remains all too conspicuously an effort to patch up the poor definition introduced by the 1932 correspondence. However, the 1951 interpretation finds no mention in the Agreed Minutes of 1963. As a consequence the Iraqi government. by accepting Paragraph Five of the coasefire resolution, is not bound to any one interpretation of the boundary fixed by the 1932 exchange of correspond-

Whilst on the subject of the 1963 correspondence, it might be added that had Iraq been genuinely reconciled to the existing boundary, then there would have been provisions in the text of the

tion and demarcation. The fact that there were not suggests that the boundary was not considered in any detail in the run-up to the treaty or perhaps that Iraq still hankered after Warba and Iraq returned to its demands that the islands should be ceded or leased by Kuwait. For as long as Unikom remains

stationed on the Iraq-Kuwait border, its poor definition is not likely to present problems. However, the U.N. guarantee of the border is only a short-term security measure which makes no attempt to get to the heart of the long-standing and previously intractable dispute over the definition of the Kuwait-Iraq boundary and the islands of Warba and Bubiyan. It remains to be seen in the medium and long term whether Iraq can finally reconcile itself to its geographically disadvantageous position at the head of the Gulf.

Richard Schofield is the author of Kuwait and Iraq: historical claims and territorial dispute, published by the Middle East Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs. The article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

West Bank, and under heavy

military escort, hundreds of

Israeli peace activists drove in

convoys along Jewish settlements

in the occupied West Bank on

Saturday to protest against gov-

ernment building there.
Settler blocked roads to their

colonies, and some brandished

guns, buried rocks and made

obscene gestures at the 300 activ-

ists from the Peace Now Move-

overlooking Revava settlement.

protest but barred activists from

raising placards and chanting

The settlers said Revava was a

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The Israeli army approved the

Agreed Minutes for its triangula-Bubiyan. Within only a few years

Pollution worsens, but Kuwait still lacks clean-up plan

By Greg Myre
The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY - Oil and raw sewage are still spilling into the Gulf. A river of crude a mile long runs through the desert. Smoke from oil well fires chokes the city on 100-degree days.

Despite an unprecedented environmental disaster that is getting worse. Kuwait's government still lacks a comprehensive cleanup plan and is relying almost entirely on volunteer efforts by foreigners.

In addition, the government has issued no substantive information on the potential longterm dangers of carcinogens in the blanket of black smoke that often covers Kuwait city.

"In the short term, we think it is safe for normal people living in residential areas," Ibrahim Hadi, head of the environment protection council, said in a interview recently. "In the long term, we don't know the effects.

The council, the government agency overseeing all environmental operations, has no budget or emergency supplies to conduct clean-up work. Most of the 30 staff members are office workers.

Environmentalists have become increasingly frustrated with the Kuwaiti government's approach to ecological problems inflicted by Iraq during its occu-

"We thought these disasters would focus attention on the environment at last." said Rick horde of Eartistnes, a Hard Alu. Hawaii-based environmental group. "But it hasn't. There is

very little we see being done.' In Kuwait city, black flakes of burned oil fall from the sky, leaving distinctive speckles on car windshields and the white robes worn by Kuwaiti men.

Many scientists and doctors consider the particulates the greatest danger to human health from the burning oil. Scientists say the visible particulates are probably too big to be inhaled. But if smaller ones are present, they may not be filtered out by nostrils and could attach themselves to the lungs. However, the U.S. Environ-

mental Protection Agency and the United Nations Environment Programme are among several groups that have tested the air and said they found no evidence of immediate danger to healthy

Environmentalists have expressed concern that the summer beat - temperatures already are reaching 400c - will cause oil fire emissions to climb towards the upper atmosphere, thereby spreading pollution on a wider

Already, there has been black rain in Turkey and Iran and balck snow in the Himilayas. Kuwait City has experienced

four temperature inversions in recent weeks - more than it normally has in a year. During inversions, hot air is trapped below the cooler cloud of smoke, which gradually sinks onto the

The inversions have lasted for only a few hours," said Hadi.
"But if they stay for days, only God knows what will happen.

Sami Al Yakoob, a Kuwaiti with a doctorate in environmental chemistry, says that until the government knows the full extent of the potential dangers it should evacuate towns near the oil fields, distribute protective masks and issue warnings on days when the smoke is bad.

Hadi said the government has no plans to take any of these Some 3,000 barrels of oil are

still spilling into the Gulf daily via broken pipelines, sunken tankers and damaged port containers, according to Thorpe. The Gulf oil spill, one of the largest every at more than 3

million barrels, was caused by Iraqis intentionally pumping oil into the Gulf and damaged inflicted in allied bombing attacks. Kuwait is doing virtually nothing to contribute to the cleanup effort on its coast, where raw sewage also is flowing into the Gulf and producing a rotten egg

Hadi said the Iraqis stole booms and oil skimming equipment, and his small staff is fearful of Iraqi mines near the coast.

But Thorpe and an Earthtrust colleague, Randy Thomas, said they found on much became the port of Shaking, flacy spent one Friday and Saturday positioning it to protect an equary at Chirry, consider

prepared by the g. ... untent to deal with oil spills.

It's a good, elaborate plan, but we think we are the only people implementing it," said Thomas.

The oil slicks have killed thousands of birds along the coasts of Kuwait and northern Saudi Arabia. The damage also has affected the migration of millions of birds heading north from Africa to Europe, Iran and the southern Soviet Union.

Just north of Kuwait city, hundreds of thousands of birds would usually gather at high tide, but Thorpe said he counted only 30 on a recent day.

In Kuwait's burning oil fields, many wells are spewing oil that create lakes of several acres. There is one river of oil a mile long and five to 10 wide.

Much of that oil is likely to be baked into asphalt by the desert Even before the current crises,

Kuwait suffered environmental damage from overgrasing by goats and sheep in its desert greenbelt and the elimination of coastal wetlands through industrialisation.

"We see a lack of environmental concern by Kuwaitis in so many ways," said Thorpe.

He cited a painstaking effort by French foreign legionaires to sweep a beach of mines, then grade it with a buildozer. "A day later the beach was full of garbage. It makes me very pessimistic," He said.

Prime Minister

(Continued from page 1) O''' ''

occupied territories. But the PLO has been resisting attempts to exclude it from the peace process and insists that the Palestinian negotiating team should be appointed by the organisation and should include Palestinians from the occupied territories and the diaspora.

There can be no genuine peace conference without a Palestinian representation," said Mr. Abed Rabo. "The delegation should include Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied territories."

PLO officials said that the idea of setting up a joint Palestinian-Iordanian delegation was not discussed at the PCC but that none of the Palestinian groups has opposed closer coordination with The officials said that Mr. Ara-

fat will arrive in Amman soon, heading a delegation representing all the Palestinian groups to start talks with His Majesty King Hus-Mr. Arefat is evidently trying to secure the backing of all the major factions within the orga-

nisation for any agreement or understanding he reaches with

In 1983 the PLO chairman had to drop an initial agreement he had reached with Jordan when the Palestinian leadership refused to ratify it, while he faced strong opposition to the 1985 Amman accord from the Palestinian groups including his own Fatch

The Amman accord, which involved a joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy, called for an international peace conference besed on all of the United Nations resolutions including 242

The accord fell through mainly as a result of differences on the interpretation of the articles concerning the joint delegation and future Jordanian links with any Palestinian entity after an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

Most Palestinian groups, including some Fateh leaders, opposed a negotiating team headed by Jordan and did not accept confederation with Jordan unless it involved an independent Palestinian state.

The gap between the two sides widened as the differences continued and a year after the signing of the accord and the King public-ly blamed the PLO for the failure of the joint strategy.

Jordanian officials had said then that the King's declaration did not amount to the annument Of the accord, but the sters which followed, including the closure of the Fatch offices in Amman, were interpreted by the PLO as a practical Jordanian cancellation of the agreement.

torical claim to Kuwait, while

In April 1987 Arafat finally agreed to formally annul the Amman accord in hope of reunifying the PLO which had suffered serious splits over the peace process since 1983. But since then the attitude of

Palestinian groups - mainly the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) — has dra-matically shifted in favour of coordination with Jordan. Even though Jordan and the

PLO do not necessarily hold identical views on means to move the peace process, both sides will not compromise on two major issues: First, that any negotia-tions should be based on the principle of exchanging land for peace, which Israel has so far rejected. Second, that there should be an immediate halt to the construction of Israeli settle-

ments in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; Israeli officials have repeatedly rejected any linkage between the settlements and the Déace process.

Furthermore, the idea of a confederation with Jordan -once resented by many Palestimians — is now seen as a weicomed option by an increasing number of Palestmians. A recent opinion poll has shown that at least 60 per cent of the Palestimans in the West Bank support confederation with Jordan.

But analysts say that both Jordan and the PLO might not press for a joint - at least public position on the issue of the joint negotiating delegation and a future confederation as they will both wait for the Israeli stand before embarking on such a

Judging by statements made by Jordanian and Palestinian offi-cials, both sides do not expect the Israeli government to accept any kind of territorial concessions and anticipate that this intransigence is more than capable of thwarting the peace process.

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nished.

Kurdish zone

(Continued from page 1) bishops told the Pope "about the situation of the population and of Christians after the tragedy of the (Gulf) war."

"We asked for the help of the Vatican to solve problems. In the first place the embargo which prevents our nation from living. We can't live from charity alone. The people have a right to live," Bidawid said the Pope agreed

to the request. There was no immediate confirmation from the

> Spain, Italy send troops

Two planeloads of Spanish paratroopers arrived in Turkey Saturday as the multinational force aiding Iraqi Kurdish refugees expanded further, officials

Two U.S. air force C-5 planes carrying 126 Spanish paratroopers landed at the joint Turkish-U.S. base at Incirlik on Saturday,

said a U.S. spokeswoman at the ise, Capt. Marcella Adams. Under a Spanish request, the two American planes will make 12 trips to carry men and supplies from the Spanish paratrooper unit Agrupacion Alcala. On Sunday, 900 Italian soldiers

plus 120 Italian paratroopers are scheduled to join the "provide comfort" operation at Zakho, the site of the first allied-built refugee camp in northern Iraq.
Military units from Belgium

and Luxembourg are also scheduled to arrive in the coming weeks, according to a spokeswoman at the Incirlik base.

EC

(Continued from page 1) should show flexibility and realism so as to bring a climate of confidence favourable to the starting of negotiations.

The 12 strongly urged the Israeli government neither to allow nor encourage the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories. Israeli activists protest too

At Revava, in the occupied

This is where your money is buried and where peace is being buried," veteran Peace Now activist Galia Golan said on a hill

> near the settlements. A group of ultra-nationalist Jews hastily set up Revava during the night last month, just before U.S. Secretary of State Baker arrived in Jerusalem on a regional

message to Baker, who has said

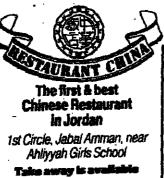
the settlements are an obstacle to Middle East peace.

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Stopania Stopania Stopania Stopania

Chinese win mixed doubles gold in Table Tennis Championships

CHIBA, Japan (R) — China's Liu Wei experienced golden highs and despairing lows in the space of four hours at the World Table Tennis Championships Saturday.

Liu, unsceded, defeated third seed Hyun Jung-Hwa of Korea in the women's singles and won the mixed doubles gold with Wang Tao but then crashed out of the singles in the quarter-finals.

The 21-year-old former Chinese junior champion hit top form to beat Hyun 21-14 13-21 21-17 13-21 21-17 and then immediately combined with Wang to overcome compatriots Xie Chaojie and Chen Zihe 21-14 21-19 21-14 in a one-sided mixed **Oubles** final.

But the 1988 French Open champion could not raise her zame again and succumbed to number 11 seed Chan Tan-Lui of Hong Kong 19-21 21-19 21-17 13-21 21-13 in the singles.

Chan, who moved to Hong Kong from mainland China four years ago, will play second seed Deng Yaping of China in the semifinals Sunday.

Deng overcame the challenge of Csilla Batorfi of Hungary, the sole European representative in the last eight, 15-21 21-16 21-17

The other semifinal will be a repeat of the 1989 final between reigning champion Qiao Hong of China and Korea's Li Bun-Hui. Qiao played well below her

best against Hong Kong's Chai Po-Wa but the number eight seed's amazing inconsistency virtually handed Qiao a 23-25 21-12 21-14 21-9 victory. Li. who won the first ever

match for the unified Korean women's team last week, took five games to down former Chinese star Geng Lijuan.

Geng, the 1985 world doubles champion now living in Canada, pulled back a two-game deficit before tiring in the decider. Li won 21-16 21-13 18-21 17-21 21-

Chen Xinhua, a former 1987 world team champion with China but now wearing fan England shirt, reached the fourth round of the men's singles and has the opportunity Sunday to put one over his old teammates.

He will play number four seed Ma Wenge, the 1990 Asian Games champion who rose to prominence after Chen left for England in 1988.

"I have a good chance against him although he is a tough playan English woman but still travels on a Chinese passport.

"I will be one of the first times I've played a top Chinese since moving to England. It's an important match.'

The unseeded Chen, a singles semifinalist in 1987, reached the fourth round by ousting 13th seed Zoran Primorac of Yugoslavia 21-14 21-11 21-18. World champion Jan-Ove

Waldner of Sweden was angry at himself for dropping a game against Dmitri Mazunov of the Soviet Union. Waldner kicked the table after

dropping the third game but regained his composure to win 21-19 21-12 18-21 21-11. "It will be tough defending the

title as all matches are difficult.

like this one today," said Waldner, who lost three times during the team competition. Meanwhile teams will gain no advantage by deliberately throwing matches at future world

Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) announced Saturday. The ITTF decided to change the playing format after a controversy during the men's team

event when Germany pulled out

Asked whether the contacts

involved a race against each

other, the spokesman said:

He refused to give further de-

tails. "We have contacts with a

number of athletes, including

(Soviet pole vaulter) Sergei Bub-

ka and (Moroccan middle-

distance runner) Said Aouita,"

"But nothing is definite yet."

He said more details should be

Johnson beat Lewis in the

Seoul Olympics but the Canadian

then had his gold medal taken

away and was stripped of the

world record. His form on indoor

tracks since his ban ended has

Lewis was awarded the gold

medal and credited with the

world record for the time of 9.92

A rematch between the two

would be certain to involve large

fees for both men, who have

already agreed to meet in Malmo,

Sweden on Aug. 5 before an

expected confrontation later that

month at the World Cham-

Meanwhile a Canadian Judge

agreed Friday to postpone the

trial of sprinter Ben Johnson on

an assault charge until Oct. 21 to

allow him to compete this sum-

Judge Bill Babe of the Ontario

Court's Provincial Division said

trial dates were available in June,

but agreed with the defence

lawyer that Johnson should be

able to complete his schedule in

mer without interruption.

seconds he set in Seoul.

pionships in Tokyo.

announced on May 14.

been mediocre.

"Maybe."

championships, the International

of a match with China while leading 2-0.

The Germans accused China of deliberately wanting to lose to avoid playing defending champions Sweden in the knockout stages. Sweden went on to retain the title Tuesday while China lost in the quarterfinals.

At future World Championships, group qualifiers would go into a random draw for the knockout stages, ITTF President Ichiro Ogimura said.

The format at this year's championships virtually allowed teams to choose their final-round oppo-

"The new system will encourage all teams to try desperately to win," Ogimura said. Ogimura also said Mexico had

withdrawn as the host for the 1993 World Championships because of insufficient facilities. China, South Korea and

Sweden are among the early candidates to replace Mexico. A final decision will be taken within three months after new bids are discussed, said ITTF

Secretary General Tony Brooks. The 1995 World Championships will be held in Bel-

Kuntz hit a last-minute winner as Kaiserslautern sustained their German first division soccer title ambitions with a 3-2 victory over

Kuntz struck as his club, who while Bayern Munich, third, must

grade, Yugoslavia.

Lendl, who skipped the claycourt season last year to concentrate on Wimbledon, said he was not disappointed by the defeat in his first tournament on the surface for two years.

"He was in better form and played very well," he said. "Tm gradually getting better on clay."

Seles, Graf storm into Hamburg final

HAMBURG (AP) — Monica Seles and Steffi Graff, the no. 1 and no. 2 players in the world, posted straight-set victories Saturday to advance to the final of the Open German Tennis

Lendl bows

out of

Open

Saturday.

Bavarian

MUNICH (R) - World number

three Ivan Lendl crashed 6-4, 7-5

to unheralded Swede Magnus

Gustafsson in the semifinals of

the \$250,000 Bavarian Open

Gustafsson, world number 32,

The Swede plays Argentine

clay-court specialist Guillermo

Perez-Roldan in Sunday's final.

Sweden's Christian Bergstrom 6-

Perez-Roldan thrashed

showed no signs of nerves as he

outplayed the Czechoslovak in

the 90-minute match.

Seles encountered some trouble in the second set but beat third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-

Vicario of Spain 6-2, 6-4. Graf, who had topped the rankings for a record 186 weeks before Seles dislodged her in March, cruised past Judith Wies-

ner of Austria, 6-0, 6-1. Even if she loses Sunday's final, Seles will remain no. 1. In their only meeting since

Seles became the no. 1 on March 11, Graf beat the Florida-based Yugoslav in the final of the San Antonio tournament for her first title of the year.

"I'll do my best to win, I'd like to win here." Seles said. "But if see is better tomorrow she'll win

Hamburg tournament, overwhelmed Wiesner in 41 minutes.

The German balsted through the first set and won 22 points in a row as she raced to a 5-0 lead in the second.

Following a brief break caused by rain, Wiesner won her first game, but Graf wrapped up the match in the next.

After cruising through the first set, Seles committed a doublefault to give Sanchez-Vicario a 2-1 lead in the second. The two traded breaks in the next three games and Seles finally beld for a 4-3 lead.

The Spaniard saved two break points in the next game, but fell behind 0-40 while serving to stay in the match. The Yugoslav won on her first match point when a forehand by Sanchez-Vicario sailed long.

"I hit some pretty good reitums today, my only problem was the cold weather," Seles said. "It was a great match, we hit a lot of great points. She is such a

Graf said: "Monica is the number one in the world, I have nothing to lose. She has."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation you are the one who does attend to

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to enjoy through social activities and to plan a well round-ed course of action for the weeks ahead. Take time to show your affection to your household and

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You certainly are under very be-nign and happy influences from-early today so make a point to get out in the social whirl and impress

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Many private interests are excel-lent for you now and it is a very good time for some happy roman tic expression and for pleasing all

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Now you are able to get together with friends and acquaintances and to get their good wishes in almost any direction that you wish to go

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Whatever you wish in the world of outside activity can be yours so show your talents and your respect for bigwigs and prom-inent persons.

1.EO: (July 22 to August 21) Be alert to those new openings that are now arising that give you the chance to enjoy yourself and to make big headway towards out VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is your time to show that

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THE BETTER HALF.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You are positively brilliant day and not a moment should be lost so go out on the town and get allies to what you want the most.

your obligations in a scrupulous and painstaking fashion and by

doing so you gain much backing.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October

22) Entertain associates at some attractive place for in so doing you find you gain considerable admira-

tion from them and get them to go

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Enthusiastically get at your project and add some colour and

project and add some conoun charm to your environment whether it be at home, an office,

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) You awaken with a most happy feeling of wellbeing if you are living in accord with your

planetary position and can enjoy whatever comes up.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You need to entertain

or do something to have more charm and comfort and colour at

your residence now so be sure to

along with your new plan.

officially or wherever.

do so without delay.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Money can now flow into your pocket or bank account by the ideas you get now especially those arising from entertainment or

HARRIS 10-2

New!

Johnson, Lewis may meet in France

PARIS (R) — Ben Johnson and Carl Lewis could race each other in France on July 1 in their first Firect meeting since the fated 1988 Olympics 100 metres final. A spokesman for the French

with the for that amounts to

dress real areal Saturdy in the

naugural international America's

Cup class world championships.

and two days of match racing,

everything and nothing have been

proven on the road to the 1992

So, let the gamesmanship be-

"It all starts all over again (after the Worlds)." said Gary

Jobson, who will skipper one of

the two boats entered by

The real action starts in Janu-

Some syndicates are skipping

the World Championships, either

by choice or because their boats

aren't finished. Others will be

cailing in borrowed boats while

construction proceeds on their

Dennis Conner, the defending

America's Cup skipper, has been

sailing his new \$3-million Stars

and Stripes for less than a month.

Although he's downplayed the

importance of the Worlds, he is

But Conner, like some other

"Why in the world would you

skippers, doesn't want to tip his

show everything you have?" Con-

ner said. "What would you

For example, if a team has a

special sail, it would use it briefly,

if at all, during the cham-

pionships. Otherwise, it would be

expected to compete.

hand in this event.

my with the beginning of the challenger and defender trials.

he finals are next May.

imerica's Cup.

/ merica-3.

cwn yachts.

After five days of fleet racing

Athletics Federation, which is responsible for the Grand Prix in Villeneuve d'Ascq near Lille, said Friday that Johnson, back from a two-year ban for doping,

and his American rival had been

6 countries participate in vecht race dress rehearsal tested during practice

> World Championships are meaningless from a cometition standpoint. None of the top four boats in the 1986 12-metre World Championships made it to the America's Cup finals the next

passed on recent hazory, the

Conner remained in Hawaii to train and Australia's Iain Murray simply, watched. Conner and Murray reached the finals, which Conner won 4-0 to regain the cup he had lost in 1983.

While the skippers give mixed reviews, the Worlds will be important at least to those who will design and build the next generation of IACC boats that will be used in 1992. "These are a brand-new class

of yacht," said Chris Dickson, a

New Zealander who skippers the

Nippon challenge boat. "They've world." The IACC boats, made of fiber-reinforced composite materials, are formulated for performance and speed in San Diego's moderate breezes. Compared to

per cent more sail area. America-3, the only other American syndicate, will be racing its 2-week-old boat plus one it

the 12-metre class, the IACC

class boats are 20 per cent longer, 30 per cent lighter and have 10

bought from the French... Italy's Il Moro Di Venezia has entered two boats. One boat each from New Zeland, Japan and France are entered, and Spain will sail a boat it chartered from

Kaiserslautern

BONN (R) - Captain Stefan

struggled to avoid relegation last season, battled back from 2-0 down to stretch their lead at the top to five points. Second-placed Werder Bromen foce un andward test against Bayer Leverkisen travel to in-form Hamburg Sun-

stays on top

and she'll deserve it." Graf, a four-time winner of the

RALEIGH, North Carolina (R)

While top-ranked U.S. teams are expected in basketball, boxing, baseball and diving, key performers in athletics, swimming and gymnastics will skip the Aug. 2-18 games in Havana and prepare instead for competitions their federations say are more important.

"It will not be a front-line U.S. team accross the board, and itnever has been, in spite of the domination of the games by the United States," said U.S. Olympic Committee spokesman Mike Moran. "There are too many

The conflicts, which include world and regional championships, the World Student Games and the lucrative European athletics circuit, have chip-

"It's just now a major meet," Joe Douglas, Lewis's business manager, told Reuters.

The most prominent (athletics) meet this year will be the world championships, then the invitational meets (in Europe) where the athletes are paid and will meet the best competition. Douglas said in a telephone inter-

Even Canadian sprinter Ben which is expected to draw some 39 countries.

The former world recordholder will face Lewis and U.S. teammate Leroy Burrell in an eagerly anticipated 100-metre race on Aug. 5 in Malmo, Sweden, that conflicts with the Pan Am Games' athletics sche-

Sprint star Michael Johnson, two-time Olympic hurdles champion Roger Kingdom and 1988 gold medaliists Joe Deloach and Steve Lewis also will be in Europe or preparing for the world championships, in Tokyo Aug. 24 through Sept. 1.

"It's a 'R' team for sure Pete Cava, a spokesman for the Athletics Congress, the U.S. governing body for athletics. "But in some ways our 'B' team would be an 'A' team in many countries.' In swimming, the best U.S.

U.S. stars to miss Pan American Games

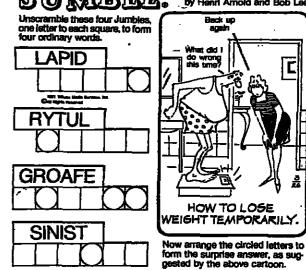
- Olympic stars Carl Lewis and Janet Evans and a number of other top U.S. athletes will bypass this summer's Pan American Games to concentrate on other events, according to U.S.

ped away at the prestige of the games, others said.

Johnson has said no to the games, 6,650 athletes and officials from

talent will be heading north, not south, in August.

TORREST THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arriold and Bob Lee



"My husband won't come near me when

I'm wearing this perfume. I'll

ten bottles.

Jumbles: MAJOR KNACK SAFARI BRIDLE Answer: Good manners might be defined as the ability to put up with - - - BAD ONES

New Zealand.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

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★ K J 10 3 West North East 2 NT Pass Pass A Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Four of # Being alert to danger is well and

good. Not taking adequate precau-tions is just plain silly. With an honor in every suit and a source of tricks. South might have done better to select three no trump as the final contract despite the unhave been impreenable no matter how the opposing cards were dis-tributed. However, this was dealt at rubber bridge and the 100 honors proved to be an irresistible

West led a fourth-best club. which placed declarer in a good news/bad news predicament. De-

clarer's problems in the suit were solved, but now club ruffs threatened the safety of the contract, and almost certainly it was East who was

short when South played low from dummy at trick one and the queen didn't appear.

Declarer immediately started on trumps. West took the ace perforce and returned the eight of clubs, a suit preference signal for the highe side suit, in this case hearts. A club ruff, heart to the ace and another club ruff led to the game's instant

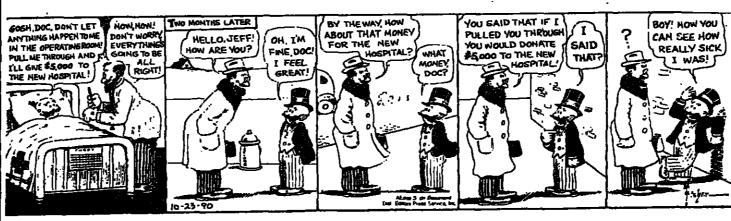
A most unlucky contract. The trumps were 3-1 and West held both major aces to provide just enough entries to sink four spades. Even so declarer could have given himself better shot at the contract, assuming the inferences drawn from the open-

ing lead are correct.

After winning the first trick, declarer should cash the ace and king of diamonds, discarding a heart from hand, and then continue with the ten of diamonds. If East produces a low diamond, declarer must ruff and hope that either trumps break or East has one of the missing aces. But when East covers with the queen, declarer can discard the king of hearts and West can give East only one club ruff. In all, declarer loses one trump, one diamond (!)

Europe and the United States.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp







Peanuts











THE Daily Crossword by Rena M. Campbell



51 Cut down a ship 53 Dash 54 Wise — owl 55 Felix or Alfred 58 Comic Jay 57 — Avv 58 Levels off 59 European school
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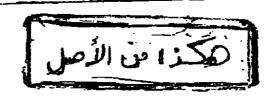
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52 Part of spe



Kuwait to ease

boycott on firms

with Israeli links

companies with economic links to Israel and will urge other Gulf

Arab states to do the same, the head of the customs department said

"Our country was returned to us through God's will and the

Americans," said Ibrahim Al Ghanem, who as director-general of customs is responsible for enforcing the boycott. "The least we can

At the same time Kuwait is reviewing tariff agreements with Arab

He did not name the countries. Jordan, Sudan and some North

states which sympathised with Iraq during the Gulf crisis, Ghanem

African states were broadly sympathetic to Iraq during the crisis

sparked by its occupation of Kuwait last August.
"The political situation of Kuwait has changed from the past," said

Ghanem. "We are more integrated with Western countries and

The Damascus-based Arab Boycott Office, an organ of the 21-member Arab League, lists hundreds of firms with economic links

to Israel. League members are required to ban dealings with these

Ghanem said Kuwait's boycott policy would be less rigid than

"Kuwait will take a different course regarding American, Euro-

Ghanem said those records on the boycott which were not

before although companies with Israeli capital would still be barred.

"The boycott policy will change from the past, specifically pertaining to the Israel Boycott Office," he said.

pean and Japanese companies. They will have preferential treatment

destroyed by the Iraqis would be reviewed. "Our policy is to reduce

boycott restrictions as regards the current companies. They will be

allowed in after asserting their position and after their status has been

He said Kuwait would seek a meeting of offices coordinating the boycott from its five partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council—Saudi

Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. "We

Israel is a reality," one Kuwaiti official said privately this week

Ghanem said tariff agreements between Kuwait and pro-Iraqi

Arab states were "frozen". "They will not have preferential

treatment ... as to what will happen in the future I don't know but I

will ask for a review of the Arab boycott laws."

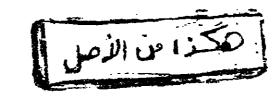
do is to pay back some of the favour."

told Renters in an interview.

as regards the boycott.

studied." He did not elaborate.

Japan.'



Hollywood glitz edges out steel in Dow index

NEW YORK (R) - Move over man of steel - here comes Mickey Mouse.

The Walt Disney Co. joins Wall Street's premiere index Monday, replacing USX Corp., the company founded by steel king Andrew Carnegie, in another sign of America's conversion from a manufacturing to a service economy.

"An entertainment company is replacing a smokestack company," said John Prestbo, one of the Wall Street Journal editors who helps select companies for the Dow Jones industrial average

"We're in a post-industrial age where services are more sought after. We wanted to reflect that in the Dow," said Prestbo, a day after the change was announced.

Disney joins the elite 30-share index with Caterpillar Inc. and J.P. Morgan and Co., the first commercial bank to enter the world's most widely-watched stock barometer.

USX Corp., founded at the turn of the century, made its exit Friday, one of three stocks ousted by the Dow Jones Co. as consumer-oriented companies outpace manufacturing titans.

Stocks in the Dow index are picked by editors of the journal, published by Dow Jones. Prestbo, who is the journal's markets editor, said the changes were not a radical departure.

Retailers Sears, Roebuck and Co. and Woolworth Co. have been in the Dow in 1928. In 1982, American Express Co. joined the ranks and three years later cigarette and food giant Philip Morris Co. Inc. and McDonald's Corp. arrived. In 1987, the Coca-Cola Co. made its debut.

"The service part of the economy has grown a lot in the past decade or so. Entertainment has become a big focus in peoples' lives." Prestbo said.

Soviet Union's giant Donbass coalfield have called off a nine-

week strike and almost all the pits

will be working from Sunday, a

Miners at only five of the 127

pits in the Ukrainian field, the

second largest in the Soviet Un-

ion after Kuzbass in Siberia, were

refusing to go back, Vladimir Minyenko said by telephone from

Miners' leaders in Kuzbass

have said they expected their

strike to end next week, after

strike committee spokesman said

Friday.

Donetsk.

Soviet miners end strike

in 2nd biggest coalmine

MOSCOW (R) - Miners in the completion of a deal transferring

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, May 4, 1991

Central Bank official rates

Bay Sell

682.0 686.0

389.7 461.9

1161.6 392.0 464.7

from foreign manufacturers, increased leisure time and the rise of two-income families for boosting the service sector. The revamped Dow - a very different economic barometer from the 11stock index Charles Dow created in 1884 - mirrors that shift.

Disney couldn't have been hap-"We at Disney are delighted and thrilled to be nominated to the ranks of America's leadership companies," Disney Chairman Michael Eisner said in a statement. "This recognition stems in part from the growing impact and

entertainment industry has attained." USX was silent on its final day in the Dow.

popularity the entire American

Dow Jones said it dumped USX as the firm was splitting its stock in two, reflecting its steel and energy holdings. Both businesses are already represented in the average.

But the decision also reflects the primacy of the consumer rather than basic industry - in today's economy. Spending by Americans accounts for twothirds of economic growth, and as leisure has grown into a big money-maker, companies that play to consumers have boomed.

With the recession biting deep, hundreds of thousands of workers in the industrial heartland have been laid off. The service sector has remained far more resilient to the downturn.

The leisure ethic epitomised by Disneyland - which has been dubbed "a metaphor for America" — was an obvious choice for the widely-watched Dow, said

Disney's stock also got a big kick out of the news, jumping \$2.75 to \$120.625 on the New York Stock Exchange

control of the pits from

Russian Federation.

tral government to Boris Yeltsin's

Mineworkers struck to support

a variety of economic and politic-

al demands, ranging from higher wages to the resignation of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Ten days ago, Prime Minister

Valentin Paylov said the strike,

which has crippled the steel in-

dustry and other sectors, had cost

the Soviet Union four billion

roubles (more than \$6.5 billion at

the official exchange rate).

Swiss Banking Commission ends loophole on anonymous accounts

GENEVA (AP) — The Swiss Banking Commission has announced a new law that will clamp down on anonymous bank accounts to help rid the country of its image as a safe haven for ill-gotten gains.

The law, which was published Friday and takes effect in July, closes a loophole that allowed lawyers and fiduciary trustees in certain cases to deposit funds on behalf of their clinets without disclosing the clients' identities.

But the law will have no impact on the most notorious on-going legal wrangle - the struggle by the Philippines government to recover funds stashed away by the late president Ferdinand Marcos and his associates.

The law is also unlikely to shed any more light on unconfirmed rumours that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has fortunes stashed in Switzerland. The main Swiss banks have denied they hold any funds of President Saddam and the Swiss government says it has no grounds to launch any inves-

Nor will the law make any

difference to the holders of numbered Swiss accounts. The identity of such depositors is known to a small circle of officials within a bank, who are obliged to reveal the names of the client in the

Experts say the main value of the move will be as a potential weapon against tax defrauders. The extent to which it will help is however unclear.

event of criminal proceedings.

The so-called Form B that provided for this anonymity will be abolished on July 1. Banks will have until Sept. 30, 1992 to ask current Form B depositors to identify their clients. In the case of a refusal the banks are required to stop the business rela-

Switzerland's powerful banks long resisted the abolition of Form B, arguing that it was unnecessary and that monied clients seeking discretion would merely turn to Luxembourg and Liechtenstein, Switzerland's tiny neighbour, as alternatives.

The banks dropped their opposition after talks with regula-

tory authorities earlier this year, although professional groups representing lawyers and trustees fought the plans to the end.

The regulatory banking commission had argued that the Form B provisions interfered with the ability of banks to meet the demands of the "due diligence" clause of the country's recent money-laundering law.

Under the law, banks and financial companies are required to assure the identity of their depositors.

The law, introduced last August, made money-laundering a crime for the first time in Switzer-

In a further effort to ease the country's traditional banking secrecy, the government in March also proposed that finan-cial officials should have a legal right to report suspicious dealings to authorities.

It suggested legislation be extended to cover companies and called for greater powers for investigating magistrates to seize suspicious assets. The proposals are still under consideration. Friday's announcement, which was widely expected, will not ease the frustration of the Philippines government currently trying to recover funds it says

belong to the Filipino people. The return of more than \$340 million in Marcos assets hinges on Manila meeting conditions set by Switzerland's supreme court last

This said the Philippine government must open proceedings against the late dictator's wife Imelda within a year. It said Manila must guarantee that Mrs. Marcos would receive a fair trial conforming to Swiss standards and that a Philippines' court must subsequently issue a "legally valid" judgment.

During a visit to Bern last month, the Philippine's prosecutor-general Francisco Chavez accused Swiss authorities of making impossible demands.

Switzerland froze Marcos assets and granted the Philippines legal assistance after he was deposed in 1986.

Spain unifies state-owned banks

MADRID. Spain (AP) - The government approved the creation of Spain's largest bank corporation Friday by bringing under one roof all state-owned and controlled banks, Economy Minister Carlos Solchaga said.

The new corporation was set up to give greater competitiveness in the European single market of 1993, when all barriers to the flow of capital, labour, goods and serives are to be eliminated within the 12-member European Community (EC).

Solchaga said the cabinet approved the new bank holding group through a decree that named the concern Corporation Bancaria de Espana S.A.

The new bank group will have total assets of more than 8 trillion pesetas (\$80 billion), making it the nation's largest financial institution by far, he said.

Aid donors

to Pakistan

pledge \$2.3b

PARIS (R) — International

donors Friday pledged \$2.3 bil-lion aid for Pakistan and another

\$174 million to help Afghan re-

fugees in the country, the World

The bank said in a statement

that Pakistan expected to record

growth of about 5.5 per cent

during the 1991-1992 financial

year beginning in July, when the aid programme is to begin.

It said the donor countries and

organisations urged Pakistan to

emphasise social programmes

Donors agreed that long-term

improvement in Pakistan's living

conditions was being adversely affected by high population

and the environment.

'commendable' economic

Bank said.

The corporation now controls 2,300 bank offices across Spain. Europe, the United States and Latin America and employs just over 19.000 people.

In a change from current practice, the EC single market act will permit any bank licensed to oper-. ate within one of the EC member states to operate in any other EC

The action is not a pure. tough merger, although different mergers may occur within the group," Solchaga said, "Rather, the government thought it advantageous now to bring all the state-held bank groups under one roof to prepare for the future." The new entity will control 11.7

per cent of the Spanish hanking market, he said. The new corporation will bring under one roof the Banco Ex-

to 6.6 per cent in April from 6.8

per cent in March, its first decline

in almost a year, the Labour

The better-than-expected job-

less rate reflected a larger num-

ber of Americans working for

But the recession continued to

squeeze businesses, which trim-

med their workforces for the

ninth consecutive month.

Payrolls outside the farm sector

Wall Street analysts had ex-

pected the April unemployment

rate to climb to seven per cent'

and payrolls to decline by

The last time the unemploy-

ment rate fell was in May 1990,

when it slipped to 5.3 per cent

from 5.4 per cent.

The April improvement was a

Tel: 625155

shrank by 124,000 in April after a

although at a slowing rate.

241,000 drop in March.

Department said Friday.

themselves, it said.

terior de Espana, the Caia Postal Savings Bank and the Official Credit Institute formed by the Banco de Credito Industrial. Banco de Credito Local, Banco Hipotecario and the Banco de Credito Agricola.

Banco Exterior de España controls several other smaller, regional banks and last year posted net profits of 13.9 billion pesetas (\$119 million), up 24 per cent.

Solchaga said the only pure merger will come soon between the Banco Exterior, with longtime expertise in foreign trade financing, and the Banco de Credito Industrial (BCI), which specialises in financing large industrial projects.

He said Banco Exterior planned to absorb BCI.

The Banco de Credito Local (BCL) specialises in long-term loans to Spanish local and region-

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — surprise to many economists, who it is encouraging particularly The U.S. unemployment rate fell had predicted several more since the economists and pundits

months of rising unemployment.

area to pick up as an economy

recovers from recession because

businesses prefer to have existing

But the department found in its

survey of households that em-

ployment last month rose by

644,000, with about half of those

people reporting that they had

chosen self-employment.
In contrast, in a separate sur-

vey of business payrolls which

economists consider a more reli-

able indicator of economic

health, the department found a

different pattern — the job mar-

ket remained weak across the

Since July 1990, when the cur-

rent recession began, businesses

have reduced their workforces by

"They are welcome news, and

options. Excellent condition.

1.6 million.

workers put in longer hours.

Employment is usually the last

Americans shift to self- employment

Banco Hipotecario, the nation's leading mortgage bank. made loans last year totaling 225 hillion pesetas (\$2.25 billion). and posted new profit of 14 billion pesetas (\$140 million).

Solchaga has long favoured the

creation of a giant state bank

working under the same strict conditions as Spain's big seven private banks. His strong support for bigger Spanish banks led two of them to form the country's largest private bank in 1988, Banco Bilbao Vizcava. Over the past few years, the

market-oriented socialist government has eliminated almost all privileged access of statecontrolled banks to cheaper state funds and subsidies, a practice employed since the end of the 1936-39 Spanish civil war.

had predicted unemployment

would go up," White House

spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

the figures signalled an end to the

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thing... cakes, sweets, pas-

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recession, was cautious.

But Fitzwater, asked whether

Survey shows British industrialists optimistic But, he cautioned that even LONDON (AP) - the Confed-

expect the situation will not be as it was in the past."

eration of British Industry (CBI) has said that the downturn in manu-facturing output may be leveling. but that its latest survey shows the nation's recession was more severe than expected.

The CBI, which represents major British industries, said that fewer manufacturers expected output to decline in the months ahead. But, it added, a sharp drop in output during the first quarter of the year was steeper CBI's previous survey published in. January.

The conclusions were published in the CBI's quarterly Industrial Trends Survey which covered 1,300 firms.

"The survey shows that the intensity of the downturn is slackening, and we may be approaching the turning point," said David Wigglesworth, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee.

though the trend toward lower manufacturing output may have levelled "it is too early to speak of recovery."

The CBI said that the severity of Britain's recession during the first quarter of 1991 forced companies to hold back price increases to a level that was the lowest since the CBI started surveying industries in 1967.

Wigglesworth said there were other hopeful signs.

in (business) confidence for two years and spending on training and innovation is holding up," he said.

The CBI warned that a sharp downturn in manufacturing output in the past year, which it estimates at more than seven per cent. suggests that it may "take a long time" for British manufacturing sector to recover even if the downtrend is slowly reversed later this year.

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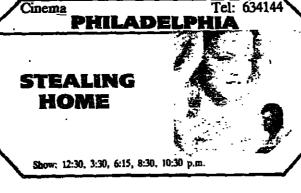
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Arabic

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TEMPLE OF DOOM

RAINBOW

U.S. Congress mounts stiff opposition to new SDI plan

gress is mounting stiff opposition to President George Bush's revamped Star Wars defence plan, despite showing enthusiasm for missile attacks traq launched in the Gulf war.

Orbiting astronauts put defence satellites through impressive tests this week, but political and military analysts say the space weapons programme still faces daunting legislative hurdles.

The first votes on the revised Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) are due next week, when the House Armed Services Committee acts on Bush's \$278 billion defence request for next year, which would provide \$5.2 billion for SDL

Defence Committee chairmen say Congress might oppose the deployment of any U.S. antimissile defences by the year 2000, even if space weapons are drop-

"I don't believe there's vet a consensus in Congress for deploying ground-based defences for the United States," House Armed Services Chairman Les

But we should support research and development that will give us real development options in the next several years.'

In the days before the vote, the space shuttle Discovery has been running tests on satellites which would detect enemy missiles heading for the United States and alert ground or space weapons to seek and destory them.

Using a research satellite, the shuttle has been trying to determine how to identify the exhaust plumes of enemy missile against the images produced by other lights in space.

Defence officials say that if the Star Wars system works, six sites could defend all U.S. cities from a limited nuclear missile attack from a small country or from an accidental firing from within the Soviet Union.

Bush's plan envisages developing better "anti-missile missiles." like the Patriot used against the Scuds during the Gulf conflict, to intercept rockets fired at U.S. or allied troops in a ground war. Congress is expected to approve. Congress is less likely to act on

the next step - research on deploying 750 ground-based missiles at six sites nationwide by the vear 2000. Bush's third step would be to

build a thousand "brilliant pebble" rockets to orbit the Earth and defend U.S. and allied cities against an attack by up to 200 After years of Congress

opposition, Bush last January ordered the Defence Department to focus research on limited defence rather than against a massive Soviet nuclear attack.

Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat, said in a speech the limited de-

fence plan made sense, adding that Iraq's use of Scud missiles could be a harbinger of a time when a small country fires longrange missiles at the United

Prisoners*

free from jail

after quake

in S. Union

MOSCOW (AP) - Police sear-

ched Saturday for nearly 100 pris-

oners who escaped after guards let them out of their cells fearing

the prison near the centre of

Soviet Georgia's earthquake zone

would collapse.
The prison's 300 inmates were

allowed into a courtyard "for

humanitarian reasons" late Fri-

day when an aftershock shook the

area, said Archil Kostava, the top

Kostava said nearly 100 prison-

ers threatened their armed

guards, who inexplicably allowed

them to flee. Ten prisoners

voluntarily returned overnight

and police rounded up some

Roads surrounding Kutaisi

were blocked and police searched

cars for the remainder, some of

whom were considered danger-

ous, Kostava said by telephone.

Free-lance Georgian journalist

Mikhail Takhelidze said the pris-

oners "provoked a clash" with

their guards before escaping.

Kutaisi residents reported hear-

measuring 7.1 on the Richter Scale rocked mountainous North-

Central Georgia Monday, killing

at least 114 people. Aftershocks

throughout Friday set off land-

slides, killed three people and leveled three remote Caucasus

mountain villages damaged by

Kutaisi is the city closest to the

The richter scale is a measure

of ground motion as recorded on

seismographs. Every increase of

one number means a tenfold in-

crease in magnitude. Thus a read-

ing of 7.5 reflects an earthquake

10 times stronger than one of 6.5.

A 7 reading is considered a "ma-

jor" earthquake, capable of wide-

Soviet television news said the

TASS said the tremours mea-

sured a relatively low 3 to 4 on

the Soviet 12-point scale. The

U.S. National Earthquake In-

formation Centre Colorado said

the aftershocks must have mea-

sured less than 5 on the Richter

Scale because its instruments

NEW YORK (AP) — Author

Jerzy Kosinski, who survived the

Nazi occupation of his native

Poland and went on to write The

Painted Bird and the satirical

Being There, committed suicide

His body was discovered at

9:30 a.m. (1330 GMT) in his

Friday. He was 57.

could not detect them.

final toll may reach 300 dead and

spread heavy damage.

1.000 injured.

A powerful earthquake

ing gunshots, he said.

the initial tremor.

quake zone.

administrative official in the city

of Kutaisi.

others, he said.

He said instability in the Soviet Union might also trigger the unthinkable — a limited Soviet

could respond to a deployment of U.S. space weapons by scrapping any U.S.-Soviet strategic arms reduction treaty signed in the future, and deploy an array of mobile nuclear missiles.

So many in Congress feel the best strategy is to proceed only with research, reserving the option of actual deployment should any threat emerge.

That means the House Armed Services Committee will approve about \$3.9 billion for Star Wars. more than last year's three billion well short of the 5.2 billion Bush

More violence erupts before Yugoslav leaders discuss unrest

lence broke out in Yugoslavia Saturday, hours before the state presidency held crisis talks on clashes between Serbs and Croats that have killed 16 people.

Croats manning a barricade outside the town of Sotin in northeastern Croatia opened fire after shots from a nearby house sent them diving for cover, a Reuter reporter on the scene said. No-one appeared to have been killed.

Tensions remained high in Croatia, where 13 Croatian police and three civilians died in gunbattles Thursday in the worst postCroats, Yugoslavia's biggest nationalities and old rivals.

Many towns were sealed off with barricades. On Saturday a bomb blast set ablaze the Sarajka Restaurant in Vukovar in northeastern Croatia and another bomb demolished a Croatian butcher's shop in Dvor Na Uni in central Croatia. No-one was hurt.

"It is hard to answer the question of whether civil war has started or not ... but it is obvious we are on the brink of chaos," the Serbian newspaper Politika said. The violence climaxed a year of rising tension since free elections in the six Yugoslav republics last year unleashed old ethnic rivalries suppressed under Communist rule in the country of 23.5 million

The eight-member presidency, which can impose a state of emergency, called a special session to discuss the situation with Prime Minister Ante Markovic, his interior minister, the army's chief of staff and Croatian President Franjo Tudiman.

The presidency, the highest state body, groups representatives of the country's six republics and two previnces.

Armenians protest Azerbaijan deaths

MOSCOW (R) - Hundreds of thousands of people marched in the southern Soviet Republic of Armenia Saturday to mourn five people killed in neighbouring Azerbaijan, Armenian officials

Soviet military helicopters flew over the crowd as it snaked behind the coffins through the Armenian capital Yerevan to two cemeteries, the officials said.

The five bodies were brought to Yerevan by helicopter from the village of Getashen, in Azerbaijan, near the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenia says 36 Armenians were killed when Azerbaijani and

Soviet troops stormed Getashen and nearby Martunashen Tuesday, using tanks and heavy artillery against the mostly Armenian population.

The Armenian government, which has accused Moscow of drawing it into war with Azerbaiian. declared Saturday a day of mourning and flags flew at half mast across the republic.

Authorites in Yerevan said Azerbaijan is trying to deport Armenians. Azerbaijan says it is rooting out illegal armed groups.

The clashes followed a warning by Azerbaijan President Ayaz Mutalibov that he was losing patience with guerrilla attacks in Nagorno-Karabakh and along the

border with Armenia. Hundreds of people have been killed in the last three years in fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave in Azerbaijan claimed by both republics. It is populated mostly by Armenians but admi-

> The Armenian News Agency Snark, said Getashen was still surrounded by troops and Martunashen had been razed.

nistered by Azerbaijan.

Mutalibov and Armenia's President Levon Ter-Petrosyan met Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Friday to try to defuse the dispute, an Armenian spokesman said. Few details have emerged from the talks.

Dallas ends with a cliffhanger

DALLAS Texas (R) — The soap opera Dallas, which perfected the nail-biting, cliffhanger format for television, ended Friday true to style, leaving viewers to decide whether villian J.R. Ewing committed suicide in the final epi-

"It was kind of a weird way to go out, but I give them credit for sticking with the cliffhanger style," said Wayne Perkins, a Dallas resident wo watched the final show at a city restaurant where several scenes for the popular series were filmed.

Dallas, which went off the air Friday with a final two-hour seg-ment, completed a 13-year, 356enisode run that was second inlongevity only to the western series Gunsmoke, starring James Arness, which ran for 401 shows.

The final show of Dallas was filled with surprises, including the final scene, in which J.R. contemplates shooting himself. J.R.'s dastardly deeds and family betrayals were the central theme of the series, but the script of the final show was kept secret.

Putting a black-humour spin on Frank Capra's film "It's A Wonderful Life, a supernatural being, which turns out to be a devil instead of an angel, urges J.R. to kill himself after two hours or showing what life would have been like if J.R. had never

J.R. is seen raising a handgun towards his face. The sound of a gunshot rings out and J.R.'s brother Bobby rushes into J.R.'s. bedroom. Bobby gasps and cameras show a close-up of him looking aghast at the floor. Then the show ends — without revealing J.R.'s condition.
"Well, they can certainly bring

this show back alive if they want to," said Carla Charles, another longtime Dallas fan who said she had videotaped every episode. "But I expect it will only be. around in re-runs."

Dallas was the top-rated series for three years from 1980 and was still in the top 10 as recently as

The final episode of the 1980



'Larry Hagman played the part of the star viliain, J.R. Ewing, in Dallas (file Phot)

season perfected the television cliffhanger with the apparent shooting of J.R.

For the next six months, people around the world wondered "who shot J.R.?" When the show resumed on

Nov. 21, 1980, 300 million people in 65 countries tuned in to learn the answer. It was the mostwatched episode in U.S. television history up to that time. surpassed later only by the final episode of M.A.S.H.

More than 2,000 people gathered about 20 miles (32 kilometres) northeast of central Dallas at Southfork Ranch Friday, where most of the show's

outdoor scenes were filmed. Promoters of Southfork as a tourist attraction say they believe

visitors will come for years.

They want to see the birthplace of all J.R.'s evil plots," said J.R. Duncan, who built the ranch and now sells souvenirs from a trailer parked nearby. Texas Governor.

Richards signed a proclamation honouring the show in Austin Friday, saying that because of it "Texas belt buckles, boots, hats and jeans are known all around the world."

Dallas City officials said the show did much to end the city's notoriety as the place where popular President John Kennedy

vas assassinated.
"People around the world now think of Dallas as a place of rich people and cadillacs, not assas-

sins," said Doris Havworth. The show, which was produced by Lorimar Studios in Burbank. California, and aired by CBS, was cancelled because of falling ratings. It had slipped to 60th place among the 136 television series aired during the current

Britain's Labour

The poll, carried out Friday after millions of Britions voted for local councils, showed Labour with 40 per cent electoral support, the Conservatives 38 and the centrist Liberal Democrats

economic problems and a rise in unemployment figures, suffered a net loss of nearly 900 council seats in elections across England and Wales. There were no elections in Scotland and London.

appointing and Conservative Party spokesman indicated that a June general election was no longer on the agenda.

constituencies across Britain. Stunning opposition victo Friday in local elections shook

their trouncing in local elections on the recession and on the socalled poll tax imposed under Margaret Thatcher's govern-

Major, who hastily disowned the tax after the party dumped

"But I think there's a great deal to look forward to. ... We are on an upswing and they have peaked," he said in a television interview, referring to the main

ahead

LONDON (Agencies) - British Prime Minister John Maior. bruised after massive Conservative losses in local elections, received a further blow Saturday when an opinion poll showed the opposition Labour party in the

Major called the results dis-ICM interviewed a sample of

the results were "quite disappointing."

ing were seats in 369 local coun-

SEOUL (R) - Violence erupted

in the heart of Seoul Saturday as

hundreds of protesters calling for

the overthrow of President Roh

Tae-Woo fought hit-and-run bat-

Students overturned and set

fire to a police vehicle in front of

the Bank of Korea, South

Korea's central bank, and

taunted riot police with an im-

promptu sit-in outside a former

royal palace in the central of the

fled barrages of tear-gas and

baton charges by lines of grey-

clad riot police. High-pressure

arches from water cannons

sluiced across the wide boule-

The protesters, mostly stu-

dents, dissidents and labour activ-

ists, assembled in at least three'

areas in the capital and defied

government orders not to march

"Overthrow Roh Tae-Woo."

they chanted as they locked arms

and moved towards the lines of

In Pusan, the country's second

largest city, about 10,000 demon-

strators held an anti-government

rally without interference from

more than 2,000 watching riot

towards city hall

helmeted riot police.

vards bisecting the capital.

Terrified Saturday shoppers

tles with riot police.

The ICM survey published in the Daily Express newspaper gave Labour a two-point national lead over the ruling Conserva-

the Conservative Party's 12-year grip on power.

Battered Conservatives blamed

Mrs. Thatcher in November, said

opposition Labour Party.

Poll shows

The Conservatives, beset by

1,074 adults for the poll in 52

At stake in the Thursday poll-

back from Austria, where he died in 1975 aged 83 after instructing

teriorating health as a result of a

plastic bag pulled over his head and was in the bathtub, she said. A note was found at the scene,

S. Africa police swoop on

townships in arms search

JOHANNESBURG (R) -South African police, backed up

by the army, searched for weapons in black township hos-

tels near Johannesburg Saturday

in an attempt to curb spiralling

violence which has killed more

Police Saturday found the

bodies of five more people in

Soweto township, four of them

hacked to death and the other

burned, taking the week's death

The fighting, largely fuelled by

feud between supporters on

Nelson Mandela's African

National Congress (ANC) and

those of the Zulu-based Inkatha

Freedom Party, has claimed some

1,500 lives around Johannesburg

Police spokesman Captain

Joseph Ngobeni said raids were

made on the Jabulani and

Meadowlands hostels and the

Chicken Farm squatter camp in

Soweto. He could give no details.

Soon after midnight more than

2,000 police swooped on three

bostels housing mainly Zulu mig-

rant workers southeast of Johan-

nesburg, and another in Alexan-

dra township north of the city.

after the army cordoned off parts

The police backed off from

Wolhuter and Denver hostels

when confronted by growing

mobs of armed, belligerent and apparently drunk residents.

and talk with the people," police

spokesman Captain Engene Opperman said. Liquor played a

big role. If we had had to go in,

using force, there could have been trouble."

The residents were armed with

spears, wore the red headbands

favoured by Inkatha supporters

and chanted anti-ANC slogans.

Opperman said police confis-

cated a number of weapons at the

other two hostels raided, includ-

ing spears, sharpened iron rods

and axes which were not consi-

dered part of the cultural

weaponry Zulus are allowed to

The swoop followed a Friday

raid on an Inkatha hostel in

Soweto which has been at the

centre of many of the recent

clashes, and was carried out at

the request of the ANC on the

basis of information it had on

Opperman said ANC repre-

sentatives supported the police

Author Jerzy Kosinski commits suicide

Katherina von Fraunhofer-

Kosinski, said police spokeswoman a

officer Janice Swinney. He had a

weapons kept in hostels.

There was no way to reason

toll there to at least 40.

alone since August.

than 100 people in a week.

decision to avoid confrontation at

Denver and Wolhuter hostels.

He said the police, accused by both the ANC Inkatha of favour-

ing the other, would probably be

willing to carry out similar raids if

requested by Inkatha.

The weapons search was carried out less than a week before a

Thursday deadline set by Mande-

la for President F.W. De Klerk to

act to halt the bloodshed. Mande-

la has threatened to break off

power-sharing talks if De Klerk

Soweto residents said Friday

Relatives mourned the deaths

they still smell death in their

of their loved ones and residents

counted the cost of the destruc-

tion of their property as the ANC

and Inkatha Freedom Party

attempted to sell a peace pact to

ANC and Inkatha signed a

peace accord Thursday after in-

tense negotiations mediated by

the police to bring the carnage to

Leaders promised to sell the

pact to militant supporters but

the ink was hardly dry when the

rival factions renewed their

murderous attacks on each other.

followers are being frustrated and

foiled by these attacks. This is

what I call war," said Musa

Myeni, a senior Inkatha official

whose house was fire-bombed

"We still want to stretch a hand

of friendship to all people con-

cerned .. only a miracle could get

us out of this civil war we are

"I do not think I will be able to

handle all this. Who is going to

raise my eight children?" asked

Soweto resident Thimothy

Motha, whose 36-year-old wife

Sindisiwe was killed by a stray

As he spoke, some of his chil-

dren were still weeping uncon-

trollably at the loss of their

innocent woman were with the

police and the police did nothing

to prevent the shooting," anti-

apartheid leader Winnie Mandela

said Thursday after visiting the

"It is better to be outside pro-

tecting yourself than being inside

thinking that the police will pro-

tect you," a resident commented.

"The people who shot at this

facing," Myeni told Reuters.

Thursday.

mother.

Mothas' house.

"Our attempts to control our

ther grassroots followers.

fails to meet the ultimatum.

"My husband had been in de-

serious heart condition," his wife said in a statement. "He had become depressed by his growing inability to work, and by his fear of being a burden to me and his

Kosinski had been at a party

Thursday night at the home of author Gay Talese, who said he "stayed late and seemed as cheerful and smart as ever."

Manhattan apartment by his wife. Cardinal buried in Hungary after 20-year exile

ESZTERGOM, Hungary (R) — The body of Cardinal Jozsef Mindszenty, arch-enemy of communism, was buried in his native Hungary Saturday after an exile that continued after his death and ended only with his country's

return to democracy. Church and government leaders bowed before the Hungarian primate's coffin on a bier outside the 11th century Esztergom Basilica during rites attended by 60,000 Roman Catholic faithful. His remains had been brought

It was the first time this year

protests have flared in the centre

of Seoul. Both sides appeared to

be acting with restraint, and some

riot police looked trustrated at

new rules that curb their tactics.

The current series of protests

began last weekend after five riot

policemen beat 20-year-old stu-

dent Kang Kyung-Dae to death

on April 26 in a demonstration in

The death has set off days of

violent protests demanding Roh

apologise, sack his cabinet and

disband a detested plainclothes

riot control corps. Roh has ex-

pressed regret and fired the home

selves on fire to protest against Kang's death. Two have died and

a third is in grave condition in

About 100 Anglican clergymen

and followers have started a sit-in

at Seoul station to protest against

the death Friday night of Chon

Se-Young. Chon, a Baptised

Anglican, set himself alight that

afternoon in a protest in Seoul.

police lines and tossed or handed

flowers to officers. When scuffles

Earlier, protesters approached

hospital.

Three studnets have set them-

they should return to Hungary only when the Communist era was over. A black-draped national flag.

its centre, hung close to the burnished coffin. For Hungary's Catholics, Mindszenty's reburial in Esztergom, where he was titular

the Communist emblem cut from

archbishop for almost 30 years, symbolised the end of a period of suffering for their church. Mindszenty was jailed for life at a Communist show trial in 1949, freed briefly during the

broke out, taunts and stones re-

placed the flowers. However, the

students refrained from throwing

failed to give prior warning be-

fore firing tear-gas at protesters.

as is required under new concilia-

tory riot control rules announced

Government leaders and

opposition politicians have'

pleaded with the protesters to

end the self-immolations that

have shocked many south Korean

whose Confucian society accords

May has been a traditional

month for radical protest in South

Korea, climaxing with the emo-

tive May 18 anniversary of the

1980 Kwangju massacre when

troops killed hundreds of civilians

in an uprising in the southwestern

city.
In 1987, a student's death at a

demonstration sparked huge pro-

tests across Korea that eventually

forced the military government to

concede democratic reforms and

a valued status to students.

by the government Friday.

firebombs.

marchers.

spent 16 years in lonely asylum at the American embassy in Budanest.

His obstinate refusal to compromise with the Communist regime when the West later sought detente with East Europe caused the Vatican to order him into exile in the 1970s.

Cardinal Lazslo Paskai, the present Hungarian primate, and Prime Minister Jozsef Antall, whose centre-right government ended four decades of communism in elections last year, led the homage to Mindszenty.

an open presidential election.

Kang's death has galvanised

South Korea's radical movement,

1956 Budapest uprising, and then S. Korean police, protesters battle in central Seoul

which had been losing popular support. However, the current Witnesses said at least three separate marches began, involving fewer than 10,000 protesters. protests fail to approach 1987 in either intensity or numbers. Dissident organisers had ex-Earlier Saturday, newly pected hundreds of thousands of appointed Home Minister Lee In several instances, police

Sahng-Yeon further curbed the activities of the controversial plainclothes Paegoldan, or skeleton corps of riot police, whose disbanding has been demanded by protesters. The Paegoldan operate in small

groups, culling out protesters for detention and often beating

Under the new regulations, Paegoldan will be given a uniform similar to other riot police and "be stationed only when demonstrations become really violent or when radical protesters or leaders have to be caught."

Five Paegoldan have been charged by state prosecutors with beating Kang with iron bars after he was cornered trying to run away from advancing riot police. The five have been charged with homicide. They told prosecutors they were only following

Sudan sets blood money in cash instead of Cameis

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan says murderers can pay compensation to relatives of their victims in cash rather than camels - in short supply in the drought-hit country: Chief Justice Jalal Ali Lufti issued a circular setting the amount of blood money at 200,000 Sudanese pounds (\$44,000), Khartoum's Al Sudan Al Hadith newspaper reported. Islamic Sharia Law, which came into effect on March 22, sets Diya - the compensation paid to the family of murder victims — at 100 camels. But a judge said that because of a shortage of camels, Islamic jurists had decided that Diya could be paid in money. The chief justice issued his circular after forming a committee to assess the Diya value of a camel. Al Sudan Al Hadith said criminal courts could send a convicted murderer to jail even after he has paid Diva ordered by a civil court. It did not give the prison term stipulated in the law.

Japanese torpedo found at Pearl Harbour

PEARL HARBOUR, Hawaii (R) — A Japanese aerial torpedo containing 600 pounds (270 kg) of high explosives, presumably dropped during the Japanese attack on Pearl harbour nearly 50 years ago, has been dredged up in the Harbour, U.S. naval officials said Friday. The harbour was closed to tourist boats after the torpedo was discovered and naval experts will blow up the missile at sea. The torpedo was found in a scoop of muck dredged up by a private contractor's vessel near Ford Island, in the harbour, and a ew hundred metres from the U.S.S. Arizona memorial, a shrine over the battleship sunk in the air attack. The Pearl Harbour attack on Dec. 7, 1941, killed 2.300 U.S. servicemen, sank or badly damaged 18 warships and destroyed 188 planes. Americans shot down 29 Japanese planes and the United States declared war on Japan the following day. Naval weapon experts said the torpedo had deteriorated so much any attempt to disarm it and keep it as a museum exhibit would be dangerous.

Doctors remove giant ovarian cyst

BALTIMORE (AP) — doctors at Johns Hopkins Hospital removed a 180-pound (81kilogramme) ovarian cyst from a 40-year-old West Virginia woman, a hospital spokeswoman said. The patient was in guarded but stable condition Friday, said hospital spokeswoman Meg Kabis. Thursday's 10-hour operation was led by Dr. John Currie, director of gynecologic oncology at Hopkins. "That is abnormally, abnormally abnormal." said Dr. Raymond Kaufman, chairman of the Obstetrics-Gynecology Department of Baylor College of Medicine in Madison, Texas. "That's a rarity." There are different types of ovarian cysts, but unless the patient is extremely obese, most can be detected with a pelvic exam when they are 3 or centimetres in diametre and "a couple of grams" in weight, he said. Hopkins officials would not release further information about the patient or her weight because she was recovering and they were unable to get her consent.

Britons urged to battle EC to keep their crisps spicy

LONDON (R) - Britons are gnashing their teeth over a European Community (EC) rule that could drive their favourite snack. the potato crisp, into extinction. The wafer-thin slices of fried potato with added flavours from prawn to what is said to be hedgehog - are staple fare in British pubs. A draft EC directive forgot to include them in a list of foods to which artificial flavours may be added and makers fearing a ban sought urgent talks with the government. The jingoistic topselling Sun newspaper took aim at Germany's Martin Bangemann, the EC industry commissioner who rejected pleas last week to hitch crisps and other suack foods on to the end of that list. "Come on, you sun crisp lovers, and show the sour Kraut what he is missing," cried the Sun, printing Bangemann's address and urging readers to mail him packets of the delicacies. The directive becomes law if it wins support from a majority of the 12 EC states. Diplomats in Brussels said Britain would be isolated in a fight to save the crisp.

